

**CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA
NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION – REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES – October 25, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. Present at the time of roll call were: Commissioner Ella Hushagen, Commissioner Amy Davis Jones, Commissioner Michael Siegel, and Commissioner Richard Tom. Chair Law, Vice Chair Hammond, and Commissioner Rona Bortz had excused absences. Staff present: Ted Gerber: Public Works Director, and Melanis Stepanian: Water Conservation and Sustainability Intern. City Council Liaison Mayor Michael Cacciotti arrived a few minutes late.

1) General Public Comment

There was one written public comment and one in-person public comment.

No other general public comments were received.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

2) Tree Hearing- 1865 Hanscom Drive

Ted Gerber, Public Works Director, presented the proposed trees to be removed at 1865 Hanscom Drive. The property owner, Charles Imbus, was available to answer any questions the Commissioners had.

Commissioner Jones asked if there are any future development plans for the property. Commissioner Tom questioned how many of the trees are native or protected trees. Commissioners requested a site visit with the City Arborist to assess the specific trees.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were 2 written public comments, included in the additional documents, and 1 in-person public comment referring to the 1865 Hanscom Drive agenda item.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HUSHAGEN, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TOM, MOTION CARRIED 4-0, REQUESTING TO TABLE THIS ITEM FOR A LATER NREC MEETING UNTIL FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING ALTERNATIVES AND THE NECESSITY TO REMOVE TREES IS OBTAINED REGARDING TREES AT 1865 HANSCOM DRIVE.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

3) Plastic-Free/ Zero Waste Guide for City Events

Melanis Stepanian, Water Conservation and Sustainability Intern, opened a discussion regarding a Plastic-Free or Zero Waste Guide for the City as per the 2022-2023 Natural Resources and Environmental Commission Work Plan.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TOM, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HUSHAGEN, MOTION CARRIED 4-0, TO AGENDIZE THE DISCUSSION OF A TASK FORCE FOR A PLASTIC-FREE/ ZERO WASTE GUIDE FOR CITY EVENTS TO A FUTURE MEETING.

ACTION ITEMS:

4) Approval of Minutes – Meeting of September 27, 2022

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER LAW, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HUSHAGEN, MOTION CARRIED 4-0, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE SEPTEMBER 27, 2022 NREC COMMISSION MEETING WITH ONE CORRECTION.

COMMUNICATIONS:

5) City Council Liaison Communications

City Council Liaison, Mayor Michael Cacciotti, updated the Commissioners on the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy monthly meeting. He also presented the opportunity for members of the City to vote for an alternative member for the San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority, every 10,000 people count as one vote.

6) Commissioner Communications

Commissioner Siegel shared the November 8th Bike Bus and thanked the Mayor for attending. Three different elementary schools biked together to the campuses.

Commissioner Hushagen brought up the idea to implement lawn signs about City rebates to encourage residents to participate.

7) Staff Liaison Communications

Ted Gerber discussed the electrification of the police fleet in the City of South Pasadena. M Tech met in the previous month and reviewed existing traffic updates and other CIP Projects, such as traffic controller updates along Fair Oaks.

Melanie Stepanian shared a few updates regarding events in the City. The Open House was a success, 95 people participated in the electric lawn equipment raffle. There were 3 winners. On Saturday, October 29, there is a FREE compost giveaway at the Arroyo Seco Golf Course Parking Lot.

8) Upcoming Events

- Compost Giveaway- October 29, 2022: 9am-12pm (<https://upperdistrict.org/waterfest/>)
- LA Smart Gardening Workshop: November 19, 2022: 10am-11:30am (Smartgardening - Workshops & Schedules Page (lacounty.gov))
- LA County Smart Gardening Webinars- Various dates (<https://www.ladpw.org/epd/sg/webinars.cfm>)
- MWD Turf Removal + CA Native Landscape Webinars- Various dates (<https://greengardensgroup.com/turf-transformation/>)

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Amy Davis Jones adjourned the meeting at 8:54 p.m.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing minutes were adopted by the Natural Resources and Environmental Commission of the City of South Pasadena at a meeting held on October 25, 2022.

Amy Jones

Amy Davis Jones, Commissioner