

ENVIRONMENTAL TASK FORCE MINUTES

July 16, 2009

6:30 P.M.

Police and Fire Community Facility

420 15th Street Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Study Session on Tiered Rates – July 28th Police & Fire Conference
2. No ETF meeting in August - Next public meeting will be September 17th
3. City will participate in AB811 program with Los Angeles County. The County will develop the assessment district, handle the bond-process, and logistics. A representative will fill in the ETF on details of the program this Fall 2009

ENVIRONMENTAL SPEAKER SERIES

Water Independence Now: A Program to Provide a Locally Sustainable Groundwater Supply for South Los Angeles County

1. Bob Siemak, Chief of Engineering and Planning, Water Replenishment District (MB ETF Water Subcommittee Chairman)
2. Presentation on the history of groundwater and the future of WRD's plans to increase the availability of that groundwater.

ENVIRONMENTAL TASK FORCE ITEMS

1. Water and Storm Water: Update on Outreach Efforts
 - a. Raul Saenz, the City's Utilities Division Manager, gave a recap of the concerns and compliments residents are expressing over the Water Conservation Ordinance. The Public Works Dept has received nearly 300 calls with question about the Ordinance, most dealing with watering days

and time limits. The City and Subcommittee are working on ways to improve the Water Conservation ordinance, and will make a presentation of their recommendations this Fall 2009

- b. For more information contact the Public Works Department at (310) 802-5304 or report a water waster at waterwaster@citymb.info

2. Climate Action: Update on Revised Plan to Reduce GHG Emissions

- a. Revised agenda for the subcommittee's plan to address greenhouse gas emissions in the City: the subcommittee is considering holding recommendations to Council until it receives results from the City's energy audit
- b. Plan to coordinate with Redondo and Hermosa Beach in extending a bike route through the City
- c. Subcommittee is working with the City to develop a loan program of "Kill-a-Watts" to distribute to residents who want to become more energy efficient

3. Green Building: Next Steps in Developing a Sustainability Plan

- a. Subcommittee work on several zoning questions the City has been dealing with regarding solar height restrictions, green roofs, and wind turbines
- b. Overview of some areas where the City could include building codes for water conservation dealing with landscape irrigation

4. Recycling and Solid Waste: Update on Phase II Approach to Solid Waste Management

- a. On July 7th Council decided to renegotiate the solid waste contract with Waste Management and get a cost estimate of the service areas the subcommittee recommended for inclusion in a new solid waste contract
- b. If City Council is dissatisfied with the terms of the negotiation they will direct staff to begin a formal Request for Proposal process. Current contract will have a six-month extension, expiring April 30, 2011

- c. The City will hire the consulting firm HF&H Consultants to assist the City with the Waste Management renegotiation

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

1. Cliff Newmark, Councilmember City of Torrance, expressed his appreciation of the ETF's work to date and the inspiration they are creating for environmental work in the South Bay. He addressed points brought up by the Green Building subcommittee dealing with solar height restrictions and the legal issues the City has experienced. He said the City had to abide by the CA Solar Rights Act.

2. Bret Pursuit, Helio Power, also commented on the solar restrictions and stated that at times neighbors can work together to resolve issues that arise when potential solar panels will block a neighbors' view.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned to the next scheduled meeting, Thursday, September 17, 2009 at 6:30 PM in the Police and Fire Conference Room.

Regular meetings will be held on the 3rd Thursday of each month. Meeting information will also be posted on the Going Green webpage at www.citymb.info.