

ENVIRONMENTAL TASK FORCE MINUTES

January 20, 2011

5:30 P.M.

Police and Fire Community Facility
420 15th Street Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Councilmembers Portia Cohen and Wayne Powell, and Environmental Programs Manager Sona Kalapura led the meeting.

ETF Members in attendance:

Paul Beswick
Andrew Cobb
Stacia Costa
Audrey Judson
Ann Lin

Kim Matsoukas
Greg Monfette
Gretchen Renshaw
Daniel Salzman

Student Liaisons in attendance: Alina Heim and Ryan Patel

2. BUSINESS ITEMS

- a. Welcome and Overview of the Environmental Task Force (ETF)

Councilmembers Cohen and Powell and Environmental Programs Manager Sona Kalapura welcomed the new members and ran through the goal of the second phase of the Environmental Task Force.

- b. ETF and the [Vitality City Initiative](#)

Councilmember Cohen and Environmental Programs Manager Sona Kalapura gave a quick overview of the Vitality City Initiative and how some of the Initiative's goals tied in to environmental sustainability and the programs the ETF will work on.

3. ENVIRONMENTAL SPEAKER SERIES

- a. [Recap of Environmental Task Force Achievements:](#)

Former ETF members: Bob Scott, Adam Gerard, Lani Lapidus Zaun, Casey Beyer, and Wendy Phillips recapped the first ETF process and achievements of each subcommittee: Climate Action, Green Building, Solid Waste and Recycling and Water and Storm Water.

Lillian Light provided the group with some upcoming event dates: Torrance Environmental Fair on March 26th, Earth Day Festival at Polliwog Park, and the upcoming Solar Homes tour in May.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL TASK FORCE ITEMS

a. Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

Presentation: Sona Kalapura and Councilmember Cohen gave an overview of the tasks the ETF may consider to achieve energy and economic efficiencies in municipal operations and those of community. The ETF will work with City Staff to research and evaluate options. The ETF will also educate the MB community on viable clean energy alternatives and systems that promise a return on investment. The City needs to balance economic efficiencies with a reduction in energy consumption.

b. Water Conservation and Sustainable Landscaping

Presentation: Sona Kalapura and Councilmember Cohen gave an overview of the City's partnership with the Metropolitan Water District and West Basin of enhancing the City's independent water supply and decreasing importation of water. The Council has tasked the 2011 ETF and staff with researching and recommending strategies for the city and its citizens to harvest rainwater and spare potable water. In addition, the ETF will assist the City in educating the community about the abundance of beautiful, sustainable landscaping options that improve the quality of life while saving energy and water.

c. Zero Waste Goals

Presentation: Sona Kalapura and Councilmember Cohen gave an overview of the City's status regarding a new solid waste contract, and explained that the City will be instituting a tiered solid waste rate to encourage recycling practices. The ETF will help teach the community how to limit and eliminate waste, as well as focus on the zero waste goals recommended in the Waste Reduction Plan.

d. Visioning Exercise: Where do you see your City in the next 10 years?

Councilmember Cohen and Environmental Programs Manager Kalapura led the visioning exercise with ETF and audience participation. Issues/ideas that were raised dealt with energy efficiency and renewable energy. Due to time constraints, this was the only topic discussed. Comments from the group included:

- i. Creating an energy policy for municipal buildings (HVAC, temperature controls, electricity usage).
- ii. What are acceptable returns on investment for municipal projects?
- iii. Creating a baseline/target for energy and water consumption.
- iv. Education programs.
- v. Creating a page on the City website for residents, schools, and businesses with all rebate, solar (different kinds, laws, tri-generation/cogeneration), green star, green quest, conservation information, and a profile of environmentally friendly companies and products.

- vi. Add a fact sheet to utility bills that includes consumption comparisons, incentives, and average consumption of Manhattan Beach residents/businesses.
- vii. Speak with Edison regarding collection of smart meter information.
- viii. Look at low-profile wind turbines.
- ix. Santa Monica's solar program was listed as an example of a municipal model to follow.

5. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Nancy Paulikas, Carolyn Miller, Jeff Murrell, Lillian Light, Bob Scott, Adam Gerard, Wendy Phillips, Lani Lapidus Zaun, Casey Beyer, Carly Keen, Diane Wallace, Leigh Noda, Martin Viertel, David Lesser, and Planning Director Laurie Jester participated throughout the meeting.

6. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned to the next scheduled meeting, Thursday, February 17, 2011 at 5:30 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.