



**A Meeting Of The IPM Task Force
Minutes
Wednesday, April 18, 2007
Albany Senior Center
846 Masonic Ave.
7:30 p.m.**

1. Call to Order: 7:30 p.m. Task Force Members present: Chair Wishner, Piller, Mattson, Thomas, Glasner, Carlsen and Fabian.
Staff present: Richard Cunningham

2. Review of Minutes: March 21 and 28, 2007: Motion to approve the minutes of March 21st with corrections by Member Piller and seconded by Member Mattson. All in favor.
Approval of minutes from March 28 tabled to the next meeting.

3. Public Comment

4. Announcements/Communication:

4.1 None

4.2 Rat Control at Golden Gate Fields: Chair Wishner stated that Golden Gate Fields were going to address a rat problem they were experiencing when they resurfaced their track. City Administrator Beth Pollard spoke to management at Golden Gate Fields and informed them of Albany's IPM intentions and expressed encouragement for them to deal with their pest problem accordingly.

5. Discussion and possible action on matters related to the following items, which could include reports and/or proposed resolutions if any:

5.1 Draft of IPM and related correspondence from IPM Consultant Steven Ash: Chair Wishner stated that changes had been made to the document with regard to Member Linden's request to add language that made the philosophical points of the policy clear and the addition of the Master Plan goal. The drafting committee had deliberated on language with regard to separating pesticides and fertilizers. Member Piller stated that Albany did not necessarily have the resources to exclusively use organic fertilizers immediately, but the intention of the City would be to eventually get there and first consideration would be given to using non-chemical methods.

Member Glasner stated that the revised language suggested by the drafting committee was mostly fine, and suggested that Steven Ash be asked to make suggestions and changes to words and language.

Public Comment: James Schinnerer suggested changing some wording to clarify the use of natural and synthetic.

Member Carlsen stated that wordsmithing may take away time from discussion of critical issues, before the Task Force allotted time ran out. After having read portions of the San Francisco Ordinance, he realized that they often hired a consultant when it came to questions and procedures. He

further stated that the Task Force should move on to the exceptions policy, the reduced risk list and how it would be generated and whom it would come from. If those issues were dealt with, he felt that page one would write itself.

Chair Wishner stated that San Francisco's reduced risk list, laid out steps that are followed to put pesticides on the approved list or things that could be used without having to go through an approval procedure. Non-chemical approaches had to be used first, but when there was no other option then the reduced risk list is where staff would go to figure out what would be appropriate to use. A consultant would then make a decision on what to use and the Oversight Committee would review the consultant's findings. The exemptions process is for using a chemical that is not on the reduced risk list, or products that are on the EPA toxicity category one and two list and they are banned otherwise.

Member Carlsen stated a consultant should come up with Albany's reduced risk list and if the list was subject to debate, what should the rules be for that debate. Manager Cunningham stated that San Francisco staff and consultants came up with the reduced risk list and Chair Wishner stated that Steven Ash suggested that Albany begin by using San Francisco's list.

Member Carlsen stated that the City's Implementation/Oversight Committee needed to be provided with information on what their charge would be and what tools they had to complete that charge.

Chair Wishner questioned how much detail the Task Force wanted to be responsible for in the ordinance or policy and how much was to be left to the Oversight Committee to develop and felt that much of the responsibility should be left to the Oversight Committee.

The Task Force discussed the most efficient way to continue discussing the draft. Chair Wishner stated that working on section one would lead to adjustments on the other sections, as section one was an introduction to the others.. Member Carlsen stated that the sections should be discussed first, which would lead back to section one.

Member Piller stated that the most efficient way to proceed would be for the drafting committee to come back to the Task Force after they gave the committee some direction on where they wanted them to go. Chair Wishner suggested dropping the most controversial paragraphs for later discussion, and move on to finalize the ones that were agreed upon for the most part. The Task Force agreed and moved to the ten items for an IPM policy in section one.

Manager Cunningham suggested that the Task Force decide whether the document was to be a policy or an ordinance, and cautioned them with regard to the budgetary restraints that may result from their decision. Further discussion of the language in the sections should have that in mind and adopting the policy could dramatically change the budget direction the City has had in the past with regard to maintenance. The Council should be urged through the language to make pioneering decisions and the Task Force should use language that placed them in an advocacy role rather than a directive role.

Member Fabian suggested that Steven Ash should give the Task Force some ideas on what processes would cost. Member Mattson questioned Manager Cunningham as to what his thoughts on costs were. Manager Cunningham stated that there would be cost added where new tasks were added to the department.

Chair Wishner stated that if the Task Force felt there were items they wanted in the policy, they would eventually have to ask for the funding to carry them out. She further stated that the drafting committee would continue to work on the draft.

6. Future Agenda Items:

Next meeting date April 25, 2007

IPM draft

7. Adjournment: 9:27 pm

