



**SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING**

**City Hall Council Chambers, 1000 San Pablo Avenue
Wednesday, October 16, 2013 – 7:30 p.m.**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Cooper at 7:35pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Blanchard, Lieberman, Uhrhammer, Wei, Cooper

Members Absent: Smith-Heimer, Yiu

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Approve minutes from September 18, 2013 meeting

Approved with minor edit.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS

None.

6. DISCUSSIONS AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON MATTERS RELATED TO THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

A. Update on Sustainable Development Features of the UC Village Mixed Use Development Project

Jeff Bond introduced the UC Village Mixed Use Development project, which will include a grocery store, mixed retail, and a senior housing development. Lynn Simon, representing Thornton Tomasetti, gave a presentation to the committee outlining the sustainable aspects for the Belmont Village senior housing project, and highlighted energy efficiency measures. The project is using LEED for Homes to obtain LEED Gold certification. Committee members had concerns about the natural gas usage and the fact that they were only planning to use 1/3 of the roof for solar, and suggested they look into a solar lease or PPA. Committee members also expressed concern with the fact that the project did not quantify any greenhouse gas emissions.

Motion:

Moved by Chair Cooper, seconded by Committee Member Uhrhammer to endorse the Belmont Village project insofar as it meets requirements for LEED Gold certification. However, we reserve any statement on CAP impact until we receive quantitative data about the project's greenhouse gas emissions.

AYES: Blanchard, Cooper, Lieberman, Uhrhammer, Wei

NOES: None

Absent: Smith-Heimer, Yiu

B. Discussion of Community Choice Aggregation Options and Possible Recommendation to Council Regarding the Marin Energy Authority

Recommendation: That the Committee make a recommendation to Council to Authorize a Letter to the Marin Energy Authority Requesting Consideration as a Member

Claire Griffing provided a brief overview of the staff report and explained that an MEA committee decided to recommend to the board to allow all affiliate members a voting seat on the board. Committee Member Blanchard expressed satisfaction with the report and made suggestions for minor changes before the report goes to Council. Committee Member Lieberman asked that more emphasis be placed on the fact that nothing will change and no services will be given up with the addition of MCE as an alternative power option, except that residents will have more choices. Committee Member Blanchard asked that the edited staff report be sent to committee members.

Motion:

Moved by Committee Member Blanchard, seconded by Committee Member Uhrhammer to endorse the staff report and approve the recommendation in it to recommend that Council authorize a letter to the Marin Energy Authority requesting consideration as a member.

AYES: Blanchard, Cooper, Lieberman, Uhrhammer, Wei

NOES: None

Absent: Smith-Heimer, Yiu

C. Report from Staff on Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BayREN) Codes & Standards Regional Forum and Report on New 2013 Building Codes

Bond shared information on the new California building codes and standards, which have strict efficiency measures that now rival GreenPoint Rated. Committee Member Uhrhammer expressed interest in having a speaker talk more about this subject at a future meeting.

D. Arts and Green Festival Subcommittee Update

Chair Cooper provided an update – The 2014 Arts & Green Festival subcommittee consists of Chair Cooper, Committee Member Lieberman, and Committee Member Yiu. The event will take place on Sunday, May 4th and staff is securing the Vet's Building and park. The subcommittee is working on securing food trucks and will have a demo booth again this year. They will also extend the hours from 11am-3pm to 11am-4pm.

E. Outreach Subcommittee Update

The subcommittee has not met, but plans to update the report for a Green Coalition event and send to committee members for comments before taking the item to Council.

F. Schools Subcommittee Update

The subcommittee did not meet, but Committee Member Blanchard had a discussion with the Albany School Board President about the 3 major projects the District is considering, which include seismic retrofits at Ocean View Elementary, demolishing and rebuilding Marin Elementary, and demolishing MacGregor High and replacing it with modular classrooms. The projects are estimated to total \$40 million, and there is a possibility to use Prop 39 funding, provided projects are shovel ready in 9-10 months. Sustainability and energy efficiency will be a priority, and the Committee could help by providing guidance on the sustainable aspects of the project. Resident Ari Halberstadt spoke about obtaining Prop 39 funding and other school greening measures.

G. CAP Funding Update

Committee Member Blanchard spoke with his Council Member, who said that Council would be hesitant to raise the Utility User's Tax if a District bond measure is also on the ballot, which is likely. Council would also want a new survey done.

H. Discussion of Adopting a Methodology for Calculating the Transportation Section for Future Greenhouse Gas Inventory Updates

Committee Member Blanchard presented a methodology for calculating transportation emissions for future ghg inventory updates, which the Committee agreed to use. Committee Member Wei expressed concern that natural gas usage will present the most difficult GHG reduction challenges in coming years.

I. Discussion of Proposed Leaf Blower Ordinance

This item was moved to the next regular meeting for the sake of timing. Committee Member Uhrhammer shared research with staff on the matter, who will come back with an update from the maintenance staff next month.

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The Committee discussed future agenda items, including a continued discussion of the proposed leaf blower ordinance, the UC mixed use development project, an update on joining MEA, as well as regular subcommittee updates.

A. Next regular meeting – November 20, 2013

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 pm.