



Community Environmental Advisory Commission

**ACTION MINUTES - COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMISSION**  
**Regular Meeting of May 6, 2010**  
**2118 Milvia St, 1st Floor, Berkeley 94704**

**Call to Order and Roll Call:** Meeting called to order at 7:07PM

Present: Greg Leventis (Chair), Yelda Mesbah Bartlett, Janet Collins, Richard Harris, Dennis Mulqueeney. Absent: None. Secretary: Nabil Al-Hadithy, Clerical Aide: Abigail Chente.  
Resigned: Anne Kim (Vice-Chair), Brooke Lee.

**Public Comment: (4 members of the public)**

**Michele Schurman** – Owner of Paper Plus, interested in any updates or decision re: Balloons

**Donald Daniels** – Balloon Artist/Paper Plus.

**David Schroeder** – West Berkeley Alliance for Clean Air & Safe Jobs – attended the ZAB meeting on Pacific Steel Casting (PacSteel) and commented that there was no focus on any decision making; requesting the Commission to put more effort on ZAB.

**Joy Brown** – Berkeley Public Works Environmental Compliance Specialist – clarified information on Biodiesel.

**Secretary Report:**

- Finance. TMD may have lost penalty revenues due to problem with billing cycle. The TMD has nearly a half year's reserve funds.
- Decade software. Software is running and training is still in progress. Minor glitches still persist.
- Enforcement. TMD Enforcement Policy allows the review of enforcement files only after the case has been settled. TMD will provide enforcement list monthly after it has been concluded.
- Preplanning. As the Alameda County CUPA/HazMat Chair – I am focusing on pre-planning element required by Chapter 6.95 Div 20 Cal. Health & Safety Code. Two big preplanning items on agenda. Training of inspectors for uniform application of the HazMat regulations and also to pre-plan response to HazMat emergencies on major transportation corridors in the County. This is in collaboration with seven county HazMat managers of Alameda County.

**Report from the Chair:**

- Announced the resignation of Vice Chair Anne Kim, and Brooke Lee. Lee's resignation did not reach the clerk's office on time for this meeting.
- Welcomed the newly appointed commissioner from District 2 (Councilmember Moore), Yelda Mesbah Bartlett.
- Reminded the Commission to send in advance their request for excuse of absent a week before to their District and Clerk's office and at the same time copy the Chair and the Secretary.

- Chair was not able to attend the ZAB meeting on PacSteel.
- Requested election of Vice Chair on June 6, 2010 meeting.

**Commission Actions:**

**1. Minutes for Approval**

**Recommendation:** Adopt Minutes of March 4, 2010 as written.

**Action:** Motioned/ Seconded/Carried (Mulqueeney /Harris).

**Votes:** Ayes: Bartlett, Collins, Harris, Leventis, Mulqueeney. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Lee.

**2. Release on Balloons – Amend 11/17/09 Council Report.**

**Recommendation:** Due to lack of sufficient empirical data on ecological impacts of latex balloons, the CEAC cannot make an informed recommendation on this subject at this time. Other issues, with Mylar and string, are as presented in past communication.

**Action:** Motioned/Seconded/Carried (Harris / Mulqueeney).

**Votes:** Ayes: Bartlett, Collins, Harris, Leventis, Mulqueeney. Noes:None. Abstain:None. Absent: Lee.

**3. Review of Graywater Emergency Regulations & City Policy.**

**Recommendation:** Harris will work with staff input to put together language for June meeting on best methods to track non-potable water use in Berkeley.

**Action:** Motioned/Seconded/Carried (Mulqueeney / Collins).

**Votes:** Ayes: Bartlett, Collins, Harris, Leventis, Mulqueeney. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Lee.

**4. Recycling and Conservation of Water – Review City Stormwater.**

**Recommendation:** Commission will request from EBMUD information on the City Water Management Plan (Pilot Project) for last five years.

**Commission requests information from Engineering** on stormwater budget (assessment fees) how it was intended for use in capital improvement, and how the budget was spent. The CEAC wants to focus on an analysis of capital improvement of the storm drain system, not just maintenance.

**Action:** Motioned/Seconded/Carried (Harris/Collins).

**Votes:** Ayes: Bartlett, Collins, Harris, Leventis, Mulqueeney. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None.

**5. Biodiesel from Western States Oil.**

**Recommendation:** Staff to investigate the concerns of Sirona Fuels. Lacking a satisfactory answer, this issue is to be referred to Auditor for evaluation.

**Action:** Motioned/Seconded/Carried (Mulqueeney /Harris).

**Votes:** Ayes: Bartlett, Collins, Harris, Leventis, Mulqueeney. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Lee.

**6. Revisiting CEAC priorities - Taking over the past Commissioner's priorities.**

- Carbon Dioxide Content of Cement Products – J. Collins
- House & Soils in Berkeley (full of lead) / promoting Local Gardens – J. Collins
- Biodiesel and /or Education on alternative fuels – Y. Bartlett

- Universal Waste – D. Mulqueeney
- Stormwater Management – R. Harris
- City Water use and conservation (G. Leventis)

#### **Other Actions**

- Chair will send link for the commissioner Chair/Vice Chair training video to all.
- Mulqueeney requested Harris and staff to create a tracking template for non-potable water (residential) uses.
- Harris to forward to the Commissioners the pdf copy of the White Paper on Graywater.
- Secretary will check if appointment can be made instead of election for Vice Chair position.
- Secretary to communicate with Anne Kim on any other information re: Cement to forward to Janet Collins.
- Secretary to introduce Lisa Thompson to Janet Collins to obtain further information on promoting Local Garden.
- Commission will request a copy of the Western State Contract from the City.

Meeting adjourned at 08:55PM.