



**Town of Atherton
ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

MAY 16, 2019

1:30 p.m.

TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS

94 ASHFIELD ROAD
ATHERTON, CALIFORNIA

REGULAR MEETING

1. ROLL CALL

Present: Holly Joseph
Valerie Gardner
Elizabeth Lewis
William Grove
Janet Larson

Absent: Jasenka Rakas

Staff Present: Stephanie Davies, Senior Planner
Nestor Delgado, Assistant Planner

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

3. COMMITTEE AND STAFF MEMBER COMMENTS:

A. Recap of Earth Day 2019

Sustainability Coordinator Delgado gave a recap of Earth Day.

The Committee discussed their thoughts on the event.

Senior Planner Davis mentioned this would be the last meeting held in the Town Council Chambers. She noted future meetings will be held at Jennings Pavilion at Holbrook Palmer Park due to construction of new Civic Center.

4. REGULAR AGENDA

A. Approval of the Minutes from April 18, 2019 Meeting

The minutes were approved as distributed.

M/S Grove/Gardner Aye: 4 Noes: 0 Excused: 1

B. Discussion Regarding Leaf Blower Use in Town

Committee Member Joseph asked if the Town has any data regarding amount of leaf blowers and number of cars in Town.

Senior Planner Davis responded that information was not available.

Committee Member Lewis mentioned the dust and particle pollution caused by leaf blowers.

The Committee discussed cost of new equipment on workers if the Town passed a ban on gas powered leaf blowers. They also discussed potential rebate programs, incentives, and potential Town discounts for new electric equipment.

Sustainability Coordinator Delgado noted cost of electric models is comparable, and sometimes cheaper, than gas powered models.

Committee Member Grove asked about the wind levels for electric models.

Sustainability Coordinator Delgado responded the newer electric models have comparable wind levels to gas powered models.

Committee Member Gardner requested staff look into possible PG&E rebate programs.

The Committee requested staff to report to City Council on the EPC's support for a phased ban on gas powered leaf blowers and the potential for rebates or incentives.

C. Discuss Implementation of Approved Climate Action Plan (CAP) Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Reduction Measures.

Sustainability Coordinator Delgado presented the staff report.

The Committee discussed working on a tri-fold brochure regarding sustainable home living, as well as a green building checklist for architects and applicants to view early in the design phase.

The Committee discussed marketing and outreach avenues such as the Athertonian, Town E-blast, and distribution of physical copies of the brochure and checklist.

Senior Planner Davis mentioned the EPC has focused their efforts on the first two prioritized GHG reduction measures and could potentially start working on the next measures on the list which includes Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan.

Committee Member Lewis suggested meeting with the Town’s bicycle and pedestrian committee.

5. SET/ CONFIRM NEXT MEETING

The next regularly scheduled EPC meeting is for July 18, 2019.

6. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 2:21 pm.