



CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD

PO Box 190 • Huntington Beach, CA 92648

MEETING MINUTES AND ACTION ITEMS: January 15, 2020

Board Members: **Tony Soriano (Chair), Bud Benneman (Vice Chair), Ana Rudolf (Secretary), Michelle Claud-Clemente, KC Fockler, Kathleen McGowan, Joan Siegal**

City Staff: **Tess Nguyen**

Planning Commission: **John Scandura**

Council Members: Jill Hardy, **Kim Carr**

Speaker: **Michael Elliot**

Names in **bold** text were present at the meeting.

Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

Public Comments (Open to the Public)

Jeannine Studer – expressed support in changing ordinance to allow beekeeping in the city.

Mark Sheldon – Mr. Sheldon encouraged completing the Environmental Board 2019 Annual Report. Mr. Sheldon spoke about the Magnolia Tank Farm and recommended that the board consider giving a presentation to the City about the Board's comments.

John Scandura – Mr. Scandura recognized Kim Carr's attendance at the Board Meeting. He discussed working under the Brown Act and the tips that were distributed to the team by Tess Nguyen. Mr. Scandura announced that the Planning Commission voted Michael Grant as the new chairman.

Council Member Kim Carr – Council Member Carr spoke about Community Choice Aggregation. The city requested a proposal to conduct a feasibility study. Council Member Carr also stated that she would like to see more involvement from the Board.

Consent Calendar

Approval of Minutes –

Approval of December 18, 2019 Minutes, moved by McGowan and second by Claude-Clemente.
Motion carried 7-0

Action Items – Environmental Review Items

1. Environmental Impact Reports
(<http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/government/departments/planning/environmental-reports/>)

No new reports

Committee Reports

1. Executive Committee (Soriano, Benneman, Rudolf)
 - a. Nothing to report
2. Education and Outreach (Benneman, Claud-Clemente, Fockler, Rudolf)
 - a. Art Contest 2020
 - i. Fockler discussed the flyer for the art contest and requested comments from the Board. The City will provide tabloid size posters to distribute in business windows. (Library, businesses downtown.)
 - ii. Benneman will distribute posters to businesses.
 - iii. A final copy of the flyer will be provided to Nguyen no later than 1/31/20 for posting in the City newsletter and website. A version for HB3 posting will also be made available.
3. Natural Resource Management and Open Space (Claud-Clemente, McGowan, Siegal)
 - a. Beekeeping
 - i. Speaker – Mike Elliot presented on beekeeping.
 1. Mr. Elliot's showed the Board information from his Beekeeping Wiki site.
 2. Mr. Elliot recommended using The City of Fullerton as a model for Huntington Beach.
 3. Other City programs to consider are Santa Ana, Long Beach, and Los Angeles.
 4. Questions asked Include:
 - a. How do cities deal with concerned citizens? The response was that other cities require a license.
 - b. What is the desire from citizens for beekeeping? Is there a large population that would like to conduct beekeeping on their property?
 - ii. Council Member Carr recommended that the Board gather the following information.
 1. How many other cities in Orange County permit beekeeping and has it been successful?
 2. Include commercial aspects of beekeeping.
 3. Details of proposed rules, e.g. number of hives, distances, etc.
 - iii. Mr. Scandura recommended that Mr. Elliot bring a proposal to the Board on what he would like to see as the proposed regulation.
 - iv. Claude-Clemente and McGowan are investigating this topic on behalf of the Board. They will write a white paper for the board to consider and potentially send to the city council. They will present to the Committee in a few months.
 - v. Siegal suggested Central Park as a "community park" for beekeeping. Mr. Elliot has made a proposal but has not received an answer. This suggestion is currently

permitted under the existing regulation since a hive would be more than 200 feet from a residence.

4. Green Economy (Fockler, Siegal, Soriano)
 - a. Sustainable Business Certification Program

A flyer was distributed to Board that gives information about the program. The current program grant period is March 2018-2020. The City program is currently on hold until a replacement for Antonia Graham is hired. The Board agreed to also put this topic on hold until the position is filled. List of certified business is available online.
 - b. Siegal suggested researching more into recycling process in Huntington Beach.
 - i. Fockler will send a video to Nguyen on the myth of recycling.

Administrative Items

1. Name Tags

Will be provided to Board members for free.
2. Business Cards

City will print business cards. 250 card per member. Each Board member was asked to verify phone and email address.

Member Comments

Fockler asked if Brown Act training was available yet. Nguyen stated that training is usually in the spring. Nguyen will send information to the Board when it is received. League of California Cities has training available if Board members are interested.

Council Member Carr spoke with Council Member Hardy about Board vacancies. They want to make a push to fill the two remaining vacancies. Requested that we help distribute information to anyone we believe may be interested.

Fockler discussed the \$600 cost for a non-profit to conduct a beach cleanup in the City of Huntington Beach. The State beach and City of Newport are free. Council Member Carr recommended going to city council and speaking during open comments.

Adjournment

Adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Environmental Board is Wednesday, February 19, 2020 at 6:00 PM in Room B, Central Library, Huntington Beach, California.