



**CITY OF SANTA BARBARA
CREEKS RESTORATION/WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES**

REGULAR MEETING

May 15, 2013

David Gebhard Public Meeting Room, 630 Garden Street.

CALL TO ORDER

Betsy Weber called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Committee members present: Chair Betsy Weber, Lee Moldaver, Natasha Lohmus, LeeAnne French, Danielle De Smeth

Committee members absent: Paul Bullock, Stephen Macintosh

Liaison members present:

Liaison members absent: Planning Commissioner Michael Jordan, Parks and Recreation Commissioner Nick Ferrara, Council Member Frank Hotchkiss

Staff present: Creeks Restoration/Clean Water Manager Cameron Benson, Creeks Administrative Specialist Jen Hollywood, Water Quality Research Coordinator Jill Murray, Water Resources Specialist Autumn Malanca

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion:

Committee Members Moldaver/Lohmus to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of April 17, 2013.

Vote:

Voice vote 5/0

AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one wished to speak.

COMMITTEE MEMBER AND STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

None.

7. BUSINESS ITEM

- a. **Southern Coastal Santa Barbara Creeks Bioassessment Program and 2012 Report**

Recommendation: That the Committee receive an update on the Southern Coastal Santa Barbara Creeks Bioassessment Program and a summary of the 2012 Report.

Documents:

Staff Report – May 2013
Presentation – May 2013

Speakers:

Jeff Brinkman, Ecology Consultants, Jill Murray, Water Quality Research Coordinator

Committee Questions/Discussion:

Committee members asked questions regarding how the recent low rainfall affects research, variations and fluctuations over the past 12 years, if there is a correlation between street washing and creek health; and, whether the mouth of the estuary was open or closed during the sampling and how it affects species.

Mr. Brinkman reported that the low rainfall and less water does cause the Biological Index scores to change, however it is natural for this to happen and will not cause a significant change, no isolated study has been done on regarding street washing in Santa Barbara and how it affects the creeks; and, it is noted at the time of data collection if the estuary mouth was open or closed and with a larger data set and separation of data it could be evaluated.

b. Status Report – State Water Resources Control Board National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System General Permit, City of Santa Barbara Storm Water Management Program, and Storm Water Ordinance

Recommendation: That the Committee receive a presentation on the new 2013 State Water Resources Control Board National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for Waste Discharge Requirements for Storm Water Discharges from Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (General Permit), and recommend that the City Council approve a storm water ordinance consistent with the existing Storm Water Management Program (SWMP) and in compliance with the new General Permit.

Documents:

Power Point Presentation – May 2013
Staff Report – May 2013

Speakers:

Autumn Malanca, Water Resources Specialist

Committee Questions/Discussion:

Committee members asked questions regarding any additional cost/staffing required under a perennial ordinance rather than the yearly program, how long the exemption lasts, any new ideas/processes that have come up that we could add to our program in the future.

Ms. Benson reported that standards that are already existing will be included in the ordinance so no additional cost or staffing will be required, that the City can operate under the exemption as long as the permit is in effect; and, that the new General Permit includes some additional requirements that will be added to the program.

Motion:

Committee Members Moldaver/French to recommend approval of the storm water ordinance consistent with the existing Storm Water Management Program (SWMP) and in compliance with the new General Permit.

Vote:

Voice vote 5/0

ADJOURNMENT

Motion:

Committee members French/Moldaver to adjourn.

Vote:

Voice vote: 5/0

Ms. Weber adjourned the meeting at 6:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cameron Benson
Creeks Restoration/Clean Water Manager