



CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH

ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD

Meeting Minutes and Action Items: November 3, 2011

Chairman: Gordon
Others Present: Smith, Nicolson, Marshall, Glover, Schaaf
Absent:
City Staff: Aaron Klemm
Commission: None
Council Members: None
Public: Kimmy Colpin, Chris Lunghino, Jeff Coffman

Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 5:34 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes were approved for the October, 2011 meeting, as moved by Smith, seconded by Gordon.

Public Comments

Kimmy Colpin presented the CPR plan for the lower bench of the Bolsa Mesa. In 1992, a housing development was slated for construction in the area. The Bolsa Chica Land Trust has acquired much of this land for restoration. The lower bench is inhabited by native, and non-native invasive vegetation. The landtrust partnered with the Department of Fish and Game for the restoration plan. The CPR goals include reducing invasive weeds, and restoring native grassland, to create at least 4 viable habitats, 100 acres of restored habitat, and lab study for students. Restoring the property can disturb the existing sensitive wildlife. Therefore, the landtrust has developed a long term plan. The native grassland is the most difficult to restore. 40% of the work will be completed by volunteers. When the plan is complete, the terra farms become seasonal wetlands, no structures will be left behind, and the ongoing maintenance will be by the BCLT. One of the concerns is the "urban drool" from the future housing development up-slope from the mesa. It was noted that the homes were conditioned to use native plants for landscaping, not to use fertilizers and pesticides, and to keep pets indoors. There is a critter cam at the Bolsa Chica and people can watch the wildlife from their homes.

Informational Items:

None

Action Items:

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Updates and Announcements-

The city council will reappoint Michael Marshall , and newly appoint Chris Lunghino, Deborah Orrill and Jeff Coffman

EIR – Notice of preparation of a Draft EIR for the Huntington Beach Skate Park Project
Schaaf presented the subcommittee’s findings in reviewing the initial study. He noted that the project is in a great location, and is preferred over the existing residential designation. The main concern is the landscaping. Glover provided a recommended list of vegetation for the applicant that will better serve the site, such as shade trees, native, hardy, drought tolerant shrubs, and maybe AstroTurf. Schaaf will write the letter.

FIELD TRIPS-

Eco Cover Factory – January or February

Solar Walk – 2012

Orange Coast River Park – tentatively scheduled for January

GREEN & SOLAR ENERGY COMMITTEE (Smith, Gordon, Marshall)

SCE Regional Strategic Plan: Aaron provided an update

Solar Update: All three sites have permits to operate now

COMMUNICATIONS (Glover/Marquez/Smith)

3rd Party Direct Install Energy Walk – postponed to Q1 2012

Chamber of Commerce issued a survey for Business Sustainable Action Committee (BSAC)

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARDS (Marshall/Marquez/Schaaf/Nicolson)

SCE, and Rainbow’s “Seed Award”

VI. Administrative Items

Correspondence/News Articles/Announcements –

None

Requests to Place Items on the Next Agenda

1300 Reusable bags, board participation to pass out bags at Surf City Nights

The board will take a position on the plastic bag ban and write a letter to be sent to the city council

Jeff Coffman spoke about passing out other reusable bags that high school students will be passing out,

also at Surf City Nights

VII. Good and Welfare

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned approximately 6:40 p.m. The next meeting will be held at 5:30 p.m. on December 1st, 2011 in room B7.