

MINUTES
DECEMBER 1, 2021
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

AGENDA POSTING: November 24, 2021

Given the emergency declaration through the State related to COVID-19 this meeting is being held pursuant through zoom application. Members of the public wishing to provide public input may do so in real time, via the zoom meeting link that is provided in the agenda packet. They may also email comments and may provide real time public comments by calling the number that is listed in the agenda packet. In accordance with the Brown Act, as amended on January 1, 1987, a copy of the Agenda Face Sheet for this meeting was posted in five (5) public places throughout the city designated for the posting of such notices seventy-two (72) hours prior to this meeting.

CALL TO ORDER: Vice Chair – William Koons called to order the meeting of the Environmental Commission Meeting to start recording via zoom at 6:38 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Vice Chair – William Koons

ROLL CALL: Recording Secretary Coria noted the following:

Present: Commissioners Koons, Hopson, Isiah-Payne, Taylor, Watkins, and Alternate Mack, Villalpando

Absent: Commissioners Gills-Ward and Alternate Brillantes

Also Present: Public Works Director Whitman, Sustainability Administrator – Utilities Kulcsar and Recording Secretary Coria

INTRODUCTIONS/ PRESENTATIONS:

- a. Introduction of alternate Villalpando

NOTE:

Due the interest of time, the agenda was done out of order as follows:

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

5. PRESENTATION AND TRAINING ON THE BROWN ACT

City Attorney gave a presentation but due to time this item was moved to a future meeting date. Commissioner Koons asked if we can double check what the majority entails such as vacancies included in the majority or not.

V. PUBLIC ORAL COMMUNICATIONS ON AGENDA ITEMS:

Resident Ana Meni wants the commission to investigate the Dominguez Channel and Inland Star along with having a staff report that addresses both. Resident Yvette states that there is still something in the air due to the Dominguez Channel and wants City Council to step up and investigate more and not rely on LA County.

VII. NEW BUSINESS:

6(a). STAFF WILL PROVIDE AN ORAL UPDATE ON THE DOMINGUEZ CHANNEL AND INLAND STAR

Director Eliza Jane discusses what LA County has updated the City. Vice Chair Koons comments on what residents are experiencing when returning to their homes from the hotel. Alternate Villalpando addresses that there is still something in the air and it needs to be addressed. Commissioner Isaiah-Payne wants to work with the other commissioners in looking into trying to help residents, including mental health from the impact of the Dominguez Channel.

ACTION: Vice Chair Koons motions staff to draft a form of communication to Council to express the commissions concerns on the status on the channel and the long-term County plan. The drafted letter is to be reviewed by the three (3) commissioners, Koons, Villalpando, and Isaiah-Payne. Seconded by Alternate Villalpando. It was approved and unanimously carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Koons, Taylor, Isiah-Payne, Mack, Gills-Ward, and Villalpando

Noes: None

Abstain: Hopson, Watkins

ACTION: Vice Chair Koons motions to split and move item 6 to read 6(a). Staff will provide an oral update on the Dominguez Channel before the consent calendar. And name 6(b). Staff will provide an Oral Update on Inland Star under new business. Seconded by commissioner Taylor. It was approved and unanimously carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Hopson, Koons, Taylor, Isiah-Payne, Mack, Gills-Ward

Noes: Villalpando

Abstain: Watkins

Public Comments:

Resident Imelda Perez comments there was no real update on what is going on with the Dominguez Channel.

VI. CONSENT CALNEDAR

- 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 28, 2021**
- 2. RECEIVE AND FILE – ARTICLE FROM THE LA TIMES TITLED, “POOR NEIGHBORHOODS BEAR THE BRUNT OF EXTREME HEAT.”**

3. RECEIVE AND FILE – PRESS RELEASE, “SOUTH COAST AQMD GOVERNING BOARD ADOPTS RULES TO REDUCE POLLUTION FROM REFINERIES BY NEARLY 8 TONS PER DAY, ROTECT COMMUNITIES.”

ACTION: Vice Chair Koons motions to table all three items to next meeting. Seconded by commissioner Taylor. It was approved and unanimously carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Hopson, Koons, Taylor, Isiah-Payne, Mack, Villalpando
Noes: None
Abstain: Watkins

VII. CONTINUED/ UNFINISHED BUSINESS

4. CONTINUE TO DISCUSS WORK PLAN FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022

ACTION: Vice Chair Koons motions to continue to next meeting. Seconded by commissioner Taylor. It was approved and unanimously carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Hopson, Koons, Taylor, Isiah-Payne, Mack, Villalpando
Noes: None
Abstain: Watkins

VII. NEW BUSINESS:

6(b). STAFF WILL PROVIDE AN ORAL UPDATE ON INLAND STAR

Staff member Kulcsar states that staff reached out to the prior staff for last year's meeting and what the previous commissioners were provided such as the inspection report and the formal response from the Director of Community Development in March 2020. Staff will continue this item to a future meeting and have a verbal update or presentation from the City Attorney or Community Development Director who were part of the previous commission.

7. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION'S MEETING SCHEDULE – JANUARY 5, 2022

Commissioners and alternates were roll called to see if they available to meet for the January 5th commission meeting which the majority are.

IX. PUBLIC ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FOR MATTERS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA

Resident Yvette spoke about the meeting and thanked staff. Commissioner Isiah-Payne spoke and apologized. Resident Ana Meni spoke and wants to know why the commission was given to Public Works and did not stay with the Planning Department. Also states that there should be more training about the Brown Act, about being apologized to, and thanked staff.

X. COMMISSION MEMBERS ORAL COMMUNICATION:

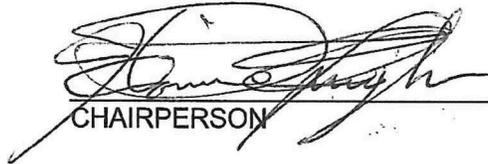
Alternate Villalpando thanks the residents who have voiced their concerns. Commissioner Isiah-Payne thanks commission and staff. Commissioner Koons wants to plant new trees and wants staff member Gregory MacDonald to speak on planting trees and getting grants.

STAFF ORAL COMMUNICATION:

None.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further discussion, on a motion by Vice Chair Koons, the meeting was adjourned at 9:09 p.m. to a regular meeting to be held on the 5th day of January 2022, at the hour of 6:30 p.m., via zoom.


CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:


RECORDING SECRETARY