

**Minutes of the  
SAUSALITO SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION**

**6:30 P.M. in the Conference Room at 420 LITHO STREET, SAUSALITO, CA  
Thursday, November 12, 2009**

1. Call to Order at 6:30 pm.

2. Roll Call:

Present: Bill Ring, Monica Towers, Ray Gergus, Sue Currier

Absent: Alix Spivack, Mayor Leone

BCRS: Kim Cristie

3. Approval of the Agenda

4. M/S/P to approve the minutes of the October meeting as amended.

5. Sausalito City Council Update

A. Mayors Comments – None

B. BERST – The City Council was given a presentation on BERST and is willing to continue its participation. The next step is for the BERST representatives to pass on the draft ordinances. This action is scheduled for the November 19<sup>th</sup> BERST meeting. The City will then be presented with the model ordinance for adoption. Commissioner Ring, who is the main Sausalito representative, indicated that the objections that the City had previously raised have all been addresses in the current draft.

C. MCE – MCE is progressing apace. There is some concern that MCE and other CCA's will engage so much renewable energy in our region that it will acerbate PG&E's projected failure to meet State mandates for renewable energy. Others point out that this will likely raise the price of renewable energy and thereby stimulate the development of additional generating facilities and infrastructure. The downside is that the "less than PG&E" goal of the light green option for the first year will not be feasible.

D. Solar Project. – Commissioner Ring offered to provide a "front row seat" to watch the construction of the solar system on the roof of City Hall. Contrary to earlier reports, it appears that the main roof will be totally covered with solar panels. To increase the capacity of the system, more efficient collectors would be needed.

6. Bay Cities Refuse Services

A. The e-waste collection program is progressing. The Commission has obtained permission to conduct the event in the City Hall parking lot on January 16<sup>th</sup> and BCRS has arranged for the collection agency. A few remaining issues need to be resolved, namely, the hours of the event and the items that can be collected. BCRS will provide the acceptable/unacceptable list and co-ordinate the hours of operation. Publicity for the event will include a full-page flyer in the December BCRS bill, Commissioner Towers will contact the Marin Scope, Commissioner Ring will contact the IJ and update the website, and Commissioner Gergus will contact local organizations.

B. Downtown Recycle Containers – Tabled to the December meeting.

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C. Art Festival Recycle Containers –At next year’s Art Festival BCRS will reinstate on-site sorting to recover compostables and to improve the quality of the various recycle streams. The Commission will also encourage the Art Festival to purchase more recycle containers. The Commission will look into appropriate signs for the containers to reduce ambiguity as to the purpose of each container.

7. Public Comment. – None.

8. Unfinished Business

- A. Website Review – Tabled to the December meeting.
- B. Budget – Discussions with the City revealed that the current funding system could not be changed. While some commissioners indicated that the current system for allocating funds is not totally satisfactory, the commission has never had a problem with funding specific expenditures. Indeed, the biggest problem is getting organized during the budget year so that the funds can be spent wisely.
- C. Leaf Blower Ordinance – Commissioner Currier reported that while the current noise ordinance would cover gas-powered leaf blowers, the ordinance is not enforced. To aid enforcement efforts, the Commission will consider drafting an ordinance to that effect. Commissioner Towers will consult with Mill Valley, Novato and Tiburon to check on their ordinances. M/S/P to exclude electrically driven leaf blowers.
- D. San Francisco Composting Facility Visit – It is believed that Novato has a composting facility. This is possibly a reference to the Sonoma Compost Company. The issue was tabled to the December meeting. Commissioner Towers will investigate the Novato facility.
- E. Updated Confidential Roster – Tabled to the December meeting.
- F. Bottled Water Ordinance – M/S/P to proceed with drafting an ordinance to ban the purchase of bottled water for City employees. Bottled water would still be sold at City and City-sponsored outdoor events. Commissioner Towers will investigate the ordinances other jurisdictions have adopted.
- G. Plastic Bag Ordinance – M/S/P to proceed with drafting an ordinance banning the use of plastic bags in the City. Commissioner Towers will investigate the ordinances other jurisdictions have adopted.

9. New Business

- A. Shoreline Cleanup– M/S/P to participate more actively with shoreline and Bay cleanup events sponsored by other organizations and agencies.

10. Agenda for Next Month

- A. Website update will be a major emphasis at the December meeting.

11. Commissioner Reports and Comments - None

12. Adjournment