



CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE
BEAUTIFICATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, June 18, 2019, 4:00 P.M.
Council Chamber – City Hall – 300 Forest Avenue, Pacific Grove, CA

1. CALL TO ORDER AT 4 PM.

2. ROLL CALL

Beautification and Natural Resources Commission Members: Jeanie Anton, Chair; Dave Myers;

Thom Akeman; Colleen Goldsmith; Rebecca Lee. Absent: Kelly Terry, Lindsay Jacob

3. Approval of June Agenda

Unanimous approval of Agenda

4. Approval of Minutes

Unanimous approval of May 21 Minutes with four corrections noted: word "to" changed to "by" under Item 4; spelling correction in Item 8; the word "pesticide" changed to "Round Up" under Item 9; and spelling error in Item 11 corrected

5. Public Comments

a. Written communications (emails to BNRC) by Maris Sidenstecker (Our Water/Our World)

regarding alternatives to use of Round Up in Pacific Grove; Colleen Ingram and Cathy Wooten request for IPM committee to meet quarterly; danger of weed/feed products by Dow; reference to NRDC's J. Sass and proposed membership for an IPM committee; Cosmo Bua regarding 1059 Jewell Avenue tree removal; and Jan Loomis also emailed a letter and forwarded one from Michael Polkable with Bio Max Environmental Inc. regarding objection to ongoing use of herbicide glyphosate within city

b. Oral Communication:

1. Amy Colony, Volunteer Coordinator for Pacific Grove provided information regarding gardening efforts at Chautauqua and call for volunteers for Perkins Park on June 29; her email address for inclusion on gardening list is acolony@cityofpacificgrove.org; Lisa Ciani requested signage review for parks including drone issue and verbiage at George Washington Park; Lorna Moffett requested milkweed be planted everywhere which is necessary for butterfly migration; Janet Wilson commented on visually disabled who cannot use recreation trail due to bike traffic;

Tricia Leebert commented on health of bees and butterflies

6. No Presentations

7. Reports Not Requiring Action

- a. Council Liaison Nick Smith provided summary of City Council meeting highlights regarding budget; shoreline management plan, ATC project; receipt of "Single Use Plastics" report by Milas Smith and discussion of city council compensation.
- b. Jeanie Anton acknowledged Moe Ammar and PG Chamber; Public Works planted new trees in Berwick Park; and Mayor Bill Peake's work on city budget

8. Items Requiring Action

- a. Public Works Director Dan Gho presented review of reduction in use of Round Up on City Property with Public Works; use of alternative chemicals; concern is that paving projects using slurry seal require use of a Round Up product to prepare for project and ensure that weeds do not grow and degrade the road materials
 - 1. Public Comment: Marilyn Andreas expressed concern regarding Round Up and medical issues; Janet Wilson had concern about possible future lawsuits; Robert Pacelli commented on butterfly population decline and need for manual pulling of weeds by Public Works and volunteers; Tricia Leebert observed that use of Round Up does not prevent new weed growth; Jennifer Haydu asked what is the greater good and whether city should err on side of caution; Lorna Moffett disputed amount of Round Up use claimed by city which is a known carcinogen; Linda Shelby suggested there are Round Up alternatives and product is not used in Monterey nor by Monterey Unified School District; Wendy Giles requested Round Up not be used within city; Lisa Ciani referred to a July 2017 California State assessment that glyphosates cause cancer; Ron Lloyd brought petition requesting that Round Up continue to be used in Berwick Park; Heather Cox had concerns about use of Round Up; Mikali West commented that Round

Up has eliminated milkweed and is dangerous to butterflies; and Lynn Mason stated that weeds should be pulled manually.

2. Commission Comment: Thom Akeman suggested that Round Up be restricted to road work like Carmel; Dave Myers referred to good information in written communications and city should not replace one pesticide with another "bad" one; Rebecca Lee expressed idea that many pesticides have killed good weeds and plants; Colleen Goldsmith stated that decision should be based on science rather than public opinion or fear; Pacific Grove shoreline location is unique and environmentally sensitive; would like to see Public Works use other techniques to manage weed growth and encourage native plants; Jeanie Anton commented on recommendation to update IPM.

3. Unanimous approval of motion by Rebecca Lee that updated IPM include a ban on use of Round Up on city property by Pacific Grove Public Works.

9. Unfinished Ongoing Business

- a. 1059 Jewell Avenue Tree Appeal presentation by Dan Gho summarizing Level III assessment performed by City Arborist with recommendation to remove tree.
- b. Public Comment: Lorna Moffet expressed concern over decision; Lisa Ciani commented on tree policies regarding protection guidelines
- c. Commission Comment: Rebecca Lee commented on engineering efforts that could have saved the tree and expressed support for revisiting tree ordinance

10. New Business: None

11. Commissioners Report

- a. Thom Akeman gave update on harbor seals and decision by city to extend permit regarding rope barriers during pupping season; Colleen Goldsmith noted weeding at Chautauqua Hall took place without use of plastic bags for pulled weeds; Jeanie Anton reported presentation by Milas Smith to city council regarding plastics ordinance was well received; June 26th is date scheduled for plastics use forum at PG museum for business owners

12. Staff Announcements: None

13. Items for Next Agenda

- a. Presentation of proposed plan for changes to drop off area by post office
- b. Butterfly Sanctuary Update
- c. Presentation by Nick Stong/PG Museum on the planting of milkweed

14. Meeting Adjourned at 5:45 pm

<u>Jean Anton</u>		8/20/19
Chair	Signature	Date