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Direct questions or concerns to the Commission Liaison at (310) 618-5912, or individual department head prior to submission to the Commission. Parties will be notified if the complaint will be included on a subsequent agenda.

Security procedures: Members of the public will be directed to enter City Hall on the East side of the building through the sliding door. All other entrances will remain locked for entry. Oversized bags or backpacks will not be allowed in the Council Chamber or Commission meeting room. All bags are subject to search.

Any correspondence received after 2:00 p.m. on May 25, 2023, on any item on the agenda will be provided to the Commission electronically and available for public inspection in the City Clerk's Office. A copy of the correspondence will be available for public inspection in a binder at the back of the Council Chamber or Commission Meeting room.

**TORRANCE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AND ENERGY CONSERVATION
COMMISSION AGENDA
JUNE 01, 2023
REGULAR MEETING
7:00 P.M. IN WEST ANNEX COMMISSION MEETING ROOM
AT 3031 TORRANCE BOULEVARD
TORRANCE, CA 90503**

**ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AND ENERGY CONSERVATION COMMISSION MAY
TAKE ACTION ON ANY ITEM LISTED ON THE AGENDA**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

ROLL CALL: Commission members: Endo-Roberts, Hill, Jendrucko, Love, Seferian, Wright, and Chair Stecker

2. FLAG SALUTE

3. REPORT OF THE STAFF ON THE POSTING OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was posted on the Public Notice Board at 3031 Torrance Bl. and on the City's Website on Thursday, May 25, 2023.

4. ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED, AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS (Limited to a 15-minute period)

*This portion of the meeting is reserved for comments on items on the Consent Calendar or not on the agenda. Under the Ralph M. Brown Act, the Commission cannot act on items raised during public comment but may respond briefly to statements made or questions posed; request clarification; or refer the item to staff. **No longer than 1 minute per speaker.** If presenting handout material to Commission, please provide 10 copies to staff before speaking.*

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

Matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion and one vote. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed by a Councilmember from the Consent Calendar and considered separately.

6A. Approve Commission Minutes: May 4, 2023

7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

7A. Community Development- Review and Discuss the Climate Smart Awards-

Continued discuss of Climate Smart Awards and vote on the Climate Smart Award nominees.

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS

9. COMMISSION ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

10. ADJOURNMENT

10A. Adjournment of Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Commission Meeting to Thursday, July 6, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the Commission Meeting Room.

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE
TORRANCE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY & ENERGY COMMISSION**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The Torrance Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Commission convened in a regular session at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 4, 2023, in the West Annex Commission Meeting Room.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Endo-Roberts, Jendrucko, Love, Seferian, and Wright.

Absent: Commissioner Hill and Chair Stecker.

Also Present: Staff Liaison Nora Duncan.

MOTION: Commissioner Wright moved to excuse the absence of Commissioner Hill and Chair Stecker. Commissioner Seferian seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected a 5-0 approval (Commissioner Hill and Chair Stecker absent).

2. FLAG SALUTE

Commissioner Wright led The Pledge of Allegiance.

3. REPORT OF STAFF ON THE POSTING OF THE AGENDA

Staff Liaison Duncan reported that the agenda was posted on the Public Notice Board at 3031 Torrance Boulevard.

Commissioner Jendrucko arrived at 7:03 p.m.

4. ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED, AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

None.

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

A member of the public spoke.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

6A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – APRIL 6, 2023

MOTION: Commissioner Seferian moved to approve the April 6, 2023 minutes as presented. Commissioner Endo-Roberts seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected a 5-0 approval (Commissioner Hill and Chair Stecker absent).

7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

7A. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT – REVIEW AND DISCUSS THE CLIMATE SMART AWARDS:

Staff Liaison Duncan presented Item 7A.

- Torrance Climate Smart Awards seeks to recognize residents, students, schools, businesses, and organizations for their commitment in excellence in environmental stewardship and achievements.
- Torrance Climate Smart Awards categories include Climate Smart Energy, Climate Smart Water, Climate Smart Youth, Climate Smart Community, and Climate Smart Business.
- Staff requests / recommends that the Commission discuss the voting processes and vote on Climate Smart Award nominees that meet the criteria.

Commissioner Jendrucko stated that she submitted a nominee but did not see their name listed for discussion. Staff Liaison Duncan stated that she did not receive the submission and would investigate.

Commissioner Wright spoke on his nominees; the Commission provided feedback.

A member of the public spoke.

MOTION: Commissioner Seferian moved to defer Item 7A to the June 2023 meeting. Commissioner Jendrucko seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected a 5-0 approval (Commissioner Hill and Chair Stecker absent).

7B. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT – CITY YARD OPEN HOUSE:

Staff Liaison Duncan presented Item 7B.

- City Yard Open House will be Saturday, June 10, 2023 from 8 a.m. – 2 p.m.; if Commissioners plan to participate at the event, staff recommends that Commissioners work in shifts.
- Reusable insulated grocery bags will be the giveaway and interactive activities will be had.
- Staff is requesting Commission comments regarding outreach format.

Members of the Commission spoke.

Commissioner Endo-Roberts suggested that examples regarding recycled items / green bins be presented at the City Yard Open House Environmental Quality booth. Staff Liaison Duncan acknowledged the suggestion stating it would be beneficial.

Commissioner Jendrucko referenced the October 2022 minutes regarding various topics of discussion at the booth; Commissioner Jendrucko stated that she would like to revisit the topics to see what can be incorporated. Staff Liaison Duncan replied that most of the discussion items listed will be covered through Public Works.

A member of the public spoke.

All members present in the Commission meeting were interested in volunteering at the City Yard Open House, with the exception of Commissioner Wright. Staff Liaison Duncan stated that she will reach out to Commissioner Hill and Chair Stecker to get their response.

Staff Liaison Duncan to investigate polos for the Commissioners.

MOTION: Commissioner Wright moved to accept and file Item 7B. Commissioner Seferian seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected a 5-0 approval (Commissioner Hill and Chair Stecker absent).

8. **PUBLIC HEARINGS** - None.

9. **COMMISSION ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

Commissioner Wright stated that he spoke about the Climate Smart Awards at a City Council meeting and is willing to speak about it again at a future City Council meeting if needed.

Commissioner Wright stated that this will be his last meeting as he will be out of town during the June 2023 Commission meeting and will be termed out after that; Commissioner Wright thanked the Commission and staff.

Commissioner Endo-Roberts stated that she has one more meeting before she terms out and spoke on her experiences.

Members of the Commission and staff spoke.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: At 7:49 p.m. Commissioner Endo-Roberts moved to adjourn the meeting to Thursday, June 1, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex Commission Meeting Room. Commissioner Wright seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected a 5-0 approval (Commissioner Hill and Chair Stecker absent).

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Chair and Members
of the Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Commission
City Hall
Torrance, California

Members of the Commission:

SUBJECT: Community Development- Review and Discuss Torrance Climate Smart Awards

During the Environmental Commission meeting of May 4, 2023, it was brought to Staff's attention that a nomination for the Climate Smart awards was not received, and the Commission directed staff to investigate the submission processes and verify the website is functioning properly. The Commission directed staff to bring the Climate Smart Awards back for discussion.

BACKGROUND:

In September of 2019, the Environmental Commission indicated an interest in re-establishing a recognition program for Environmental initiatives in the community on a regular basis. After discussion, the Commission directed staff to bring back suggestions to start a new program, with nominations made by staff, Commissioners and the community, a name for the program, categories to be awarded and the frequency of presenting the award.

In June 2021, staff presented ideas for new categories and criteria to revise the existing Green Pride in Torrance awards program. Based on suggestions from the commission, staff researched green and environmental sustainability recognition programs in the following cities: Davis, Lafayette, Long Beach, Manhattan Beach, San Jose, Santa Monica and West Hollywood. After discussion regarding the categories and commission feedback, the Commission directed staff to bring the item back for further discussion.

The Climate Smart Award was brought back to multiple Commission meetings throughout the remainder of 2021 and 2022 to discuss outreach, criteria for choosing recipients and the presentation of the award. The Commission discussed and decided on the categories, with criteria built in, and the dates for nominations and presentation of the award.

At the May 4, 2023, Environmental Commission meeting, Commissioner Jendrucko advised that she had submitted a nomination that was not in the agenda packet. Staff Duncan agreed that she had not received a submission from the Commissioner. To ensure that no other submissions were lost, staff agreed to investigate whether the submissions system was working properly and bring the item back at the next meeting.

DISCUSSION

The Torrance Climate Smart Award seeks to recognize residents, students, schools, businesses and organizations for their commitment to excellence in environmental stewardship and

outstanding environmental achievements, in support of the Stewardship of the Environment Priority in the 2021 Strategic Plan. The Climate Smart awards and criteria are in the following categories:

- CLIMATE SMART ENERGY: Outstanding achievements in clean energy, energy efficiency, demand reduction and reduced greenhouse gas emissions.
- CLIMATE SMART WATER: Achievements in water conservation through implementation, planting and promotion of water conservation efforts.
- CLIMATE SMART YOUTH: Torrance school aged youth, individuals or groups, for outstanding leadership in climate change and building awareness and engagement of their peers, school and community.
- CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITY: Individual members of the Torrance Community or a community group that provided outstanding support to the implementation and goals of the strategic plan pertaining to environmental stewardship.
- CLIMATE SMART BUSINESS: Retail, commercial, industrial and other businesses that demonstrate achievements in any areas of the award criteria or has received a recognized environmental certification, including but not limited to Clean Bay Restaurant or LEED.

The goal of the award is to highlight citizens, groups, businesses and organizations in Torrance who demonstrate the importance of environmental stewardship.

Staff tested the Torrance Climate Smart award process on the City of Torrance website and found that it is functioning properly. The submission by the commissioner was not located.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Environmental Quality Commission discuss Climate Smart Awards nominees and vote on Climate Smart Awards nominees that meet voting criteria.

Respectfully Submitted,

MICHELLE G. RAMIREZ
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

By 

Nora Duncan
Sr. Environmental Quality Officer

Attachments: 1) Climate Smart Award Nominations

The Climate Smart Award is a program being implemented by the Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Commission in support of the Stewardship of the Environment Priority in the 2021 Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan can be found at www.TorranceCA.Gov/Government/City-Manager/Strategic-Plan. The goal of the award is to highlight people, businesses and organizations within Torrance that through services and actions clearly demonstrate the importance of environmental stewardship. The award categories are defined below.

Please check one of the following award categories:

CLIMATE SMART BUSINESS: Recognizes retail, commercial, industrial and other businesses that demonstrate achievements in any areas of the award criteria or has received a recognized environmental certification, including but not limited to Clean Bay Restaurant, LEED and/or Green Business Network standards.

Please provide us with your contact information:

Full Name
John Stecker

Phone
(310) 378-3774

Email
jsteckerdds@gmail.com

Please provide us with Nominee contact and award nominee site information:

Nominee Name
Torrance Memorial Medical Center Contact: Jackie Parker

Nominee Address
3330 W. Lomita Blvd.
Torrance CA

Nominee Phone Number
(310) 517-4162

Nominee Email
jackie.parker@tmmc.com

Briefly describe the achievements of this nominee and how their efforts have significantly improved life in the Torrance community.

TMMC's management efforts have been aimed at reducing their carbon footprint and water conservation. These efforts have reduced water usage by 23 million gallons per year while lighting system upgrades have reduced electrical power usage by almost 120 million kilowatts per year-- the equivalent of usage by 121,000 Torrance homes. Sustainability efforts have also allowed the hospital to save 1.14 million tons of carbon and more than \$200,000 per year in expenses. TMMC participates in the Better Tomorrow Plan 2025 to reduce the ecological burden of food service operations.

Attachment
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The Climate Smart Award is a program being implemented by the Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Commission in support of the Stewardship of the Environment Priority in the 2021 Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan can be found at www.TorranceCA.Gov/Government/City-Manager/Strategic-Plan. The goal of the award is to highlight people, businesses and organizations within Torrance that through services and actions clearly demonstrate the importance of environmental stewardship. The award categories are defined below.

Please check one of the following award categories:

CLIMATE SMART WATER: Recognizes achievements in water conservation through implementation, planning and promotion of water conservation efforts.

Please provide us with your contact information:

Full Name

Garrett Wright

Phone

(310) 422-2297

Email

WrightEO@aol.com

Please provide us with Nominee contact and award nominee site information:

Nominee Name

Jim Montgomery

Nominee Address

Sorry that I don't have his address, but the city does.

Nominee Phone Number

SKIPPED

Nominee Email

jim.f.monty@gmail.com

Briefly describe the achievements of this nominee and how their efforts have significantly improved life in the Torrance community.

Jim has consistently promoted water saving measures personally and at his residence. He has replaced all his vegetation with native drought resistant plants. He has an impressive collection of rain barrels that he has organized into his supply for irrigation at his house. Jim also believes in a smaller personal use by promoting water saving fixtures and water saving procedures for personal hygiene. Jim served 8 years on the Torrance Environmental Commission, two as the chair. During that time, his passion for the environment was evident and appreciated. Jim is now an integral part of the native plant restoration project along Torrance and Redondo's hillside above the beach. As a "do as I do, and not as I say" individual, Jim leads by example.

Attachment

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