



**SF Environment**

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GAVIN NEWSOM  
Mayor

JARED BLUMENFELD  
Director

**CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO  
COMMISSION ON THE ENVIRONMENT  
REGULAR MEETING  
APPROVED MINUTES**

**Tuesday, May 23, 2006, 5:00 P.M.  
City Hall, Room 416  
One Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102**

COMMISSION MEMBERS: Commissioners Paul Pelosi Jr. (President); Christina Desser, Angelo King, Alan Mok, Arlene Rodriguez, and Johanna Wald

Commission Secretary: Monica Fish

**ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Public comment will be taken before the Commission takes action on any item.**

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m. Present: Commissioners Pelosi Jr., Desser, Mok, and Wald. Excused: Commissioners King and Rodriguez.

- 2. ACTION:** Adoption of Minutes of the March 28, 2006 Regular Meeting. Upon Motion by Commissioner Desser and second by Commissioner Wald, the March 28, 2006 Meeting Minutes were adopted with no objection (Absent: Commissioners King and Rodriguez). (Explanatory Document: March 28, 2006 Approved Meeting Minutes

[http://sfgov.org/site/sfenvironment\\_page.asp?id=38550](http://sfgov.org/site/sfenvironment_page.asp?id=38550).)

- 3. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Members of the public may address the Commission on matters that are within the Commission's jurisdiction and are not on today's agenda. There was no public comment at this time.

4. **INFORMATION:** Presentation of Mayor's Commendation to Commissioner Emeritus Nia Crowder.

**SPONSOR:** Jared Blumenfeld, Director

Director Blumenfeld presented the Mayor's Commendation to Commissioner Emeritus Nia Crowder. Commissioner Emeritus Nia Crowder thanked the Mayor and commended the work of Department Staff, Commissioners, and Commissioners Emeritus Hayes and Shah.

5. **DISCUSSION AND ACTION:** Resolution approving Department of the Environment Funding Recommendations for Environmental Justice grant awards to five organizations (Explanatory Documents: Resolution File No. 2006-08-COE and Staff Funding Recommendations <http://www.sfenvironment.com/aboutus/policy/resolution/008-06.pdf>).

**SPONSOR:** Jared Blumenfeld, Director

**SPEAKER:** Anne Eng, Environmental Justice Program Manager

Environmental Justice Program Manager Anne Eng presented staff funding recommendations for the Environmental Justice program's grant awards to five organizations and advised that four out of the five awards relate to air quality projects dealing with reducing mobile emissions and one with energy efficiency, all in the Bayview Hunters Point and Potrero neighborhoods. It was announced that the Hunter's Point Power Plant is officially closed, and the Environmental Justice program staff is currently working on discontinuing the agreement for the Potrero Power Plant over the next two to three years. The Environmental Justice Program staff was commended for their work.

**Upon Motion by Commissioner Wald and second by Commissioner Pelosi Jr., Resolution File No. 2006-08-COE was approved. AYES: Commissioners Pelosi Jr., Desser, Mok and Wald. ABSENT: Commissioners King and Rodriguez.**

6. **DISCUSSION AND ACTION:** Resolution approving Department of the Environment Funding Recommendations for Zero Waste and Urban Sustainability Grant Awards to 17 Organizations (Explanatory Documents: Resolution File No. 2006-09-COE and Staff Funding Recommendations <http://www.sfenvironment.com/aboutus/policy/resolution/009-06.pdf>).

**SPONSOR:** Jared Blumenfeld, Director

**SPEAKER:** Kevin Drew, Residential Recycling Coordinator

Residential Recycling Coordinator Kevin Drew presented staff funding recommendations for zero waste and urban sustainability grant awards to 17 organizations and advised that the projects would create innovative solutions to divert materials from San Francisco's waste stream, build infrastructure support, and educate San Francisco residents and businesses to maximize their diversion efforts.

**Upon Motion by Commissioner Desser and second by Commissioner Wald, Resolution File No. 2006-09-COE was approved. AYES: Commissioners Pelosi Jr., Desser, Mok and Wald. ABSENT: Commissioners King and Rodriguez.**

7. **DISCUSSION AND ACTION:** Resolution approving Development of Impound Account and General Grant Guidelines (Explanatory Documents: Resolution File No. 2006-10-COE, Impound Account and General Grant Guidelines: (1) Grantees Operating Procedures Manual (2) Grants Policy Template; and (3) Grants Score Sheet

<http://www.sfenvironment.com/aboutus/policy/resolution/010-06.pdf>.)

**SPONSOR/SPEAKER:** Jared Blumenfeld, Director

Director Blumenfeld advised the Commission that the Department's Impound Account and General Grant Guidelines were heard by the Policy Committee at their May 16 meeting and were recommended to the full Commission with amendments to the Template and Score Sheet. A description was given of the Grantees Operating Procedures Manual, Grants Policy Template and Grants Score Sheet.

**Upon Motion by Commissioner Desser and second by Commissioner Wald, Resolution File No. 2006-10-COE was adopted. AYES: Commissioners Pelosi Jr., Desser, Mok and Wald. ABSENT: Commissioners King and Rodriguez.**

8. **DISCUSSION:** Discussion on selecting dates, location and topics for the Commission on the Environment Retreat. Director Blumenfeld invited the Commissioners and the public to a Department retreat on June 15 starting at 9:00 a.m. at Yerba Buena Island for the purpose of pulling out invasive species.

Commissioners selected Wednesday, September 20 as a Commission retreat date, time from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Commissioner Wald offered the NRDC facility as a meeting location. Topics recommended (1) how to structure a coherent climate change campaign plan; and (2) 2007 Commission agenda items.

9. **INFORMATIONAL REPORT:** Update on the Department of the Environment's 2006-07 Budget (Explanatory Documents: Budget Update

<http://sfgov.org/site/uploadedfiles/sfenvironment/meetings/coe/supporting/2006/BudgetUpdate.pdf> and Public Comment Response - Memo to the Commission

<http://sfgov.org/site/uploadedfiles/sfenvironment/meetings/coe/supporting/2006/CommissionMemoWuerfelResponseMay%202006.doc>).

Staff: David Assmann, Deputy Director

Deputy Director Assmann reported on budget adjustments to account for the Department's requirement to absorb additional costs for retirement benefits. It was reported that the Mayor would be forwarding the budget to the Board of Supervisors on June 1 for the Budget Analyst's review and would then be heard at the Board of Supervisors for a first hearing on June 21 and a second hearing on June 28.

A follow-up report and justification was given on questions raised at the Operations Committee regarding the Five Year Impound Account budget as reflected in the Public Comment Response Memo dated May 2, 2006 (explanatory document above).

Public Comment: Ms. Nancy Wuerfel thanked the Deputy Director for his analysis and asked what funding sources other than the Impound Account contribute to legislation being devised and proposed. Deputy Director Assmann reported that funding sources that may contribute to legislation consists of grants, other City departments, and special funds. Ms.

Wuerfel confirmed that the increase in administrative costs was a result of pension fund allocations and reductions were made to other areas to balance the budget.

- 10. INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION:** Update on the Department of Environment's Move to 25 Van Ness Avenue and Presentation on Plan.

Staff: David Assmann, Deputy Director

Deputy Director Assmann advised that the first phase of the move to 25 Van Ness Avenue would be postponed to July 31, 2006 because of construction issues. The second phase is scheduled for June 1, 2007 as planned. The Resolution amending the existing lease is before the Board of Supervisors and would be heard the week of June 5. A follow-up report would be given at the Operations Committee meeting on July 19, 2006.

- 11. INFORMATIONAL REPORT:** Update on the City and County of San Francisco Controller's Office Interim Audit Report.

Staff: David Assmann, Deputy Director

Deputy Director Assmann reported that the Controller's Office is working on the final audit report and will be evaluating the Department's contracts and contracting process in addition to grants. A performance audit would not be conducted this year. A final report was projected for completion by next month and would be reported on at the Operations Committee meeting on July 19, 2006.

- 12. DISCUSSION AND ACTION:** Nomination and Election of Commission President. Nomination and Election of Commission Vice President if necessary.

Commissioner Wald nominated Commissioner Desser for President. Due to an absence of a full Commission an election was not held.

Upon Motion by Commissioner Pelosi Jr. and second by Commissioner Mok, the nomination and election of Commission President and Commission Vice-President was continued to the July 25, 2006 meeting without objection.

- 13. INFORMATION:** Commission Secretary's Report (Explanatory Document: Commission Secretary's Report May 2006 (Word)

<http://sfgov.org/site/uploadedfiles/sfenvironment/meetings/coe/supporting/2006/052306.pdf> )

Monica Fish, Commission Secretary reported on communications and correspondence received and gave an update on pending City legislation as reflected in the explanatory document above.

Commissioner Wald requested a presentation on the Urban Forest Plan at the August Policy Committee meeting.

Item 16, Director's Report was heard before Items 14 and 15.

**14. INFORMATION: Operations Committee Report**

- Chair's Report: Commissioner Mok reported that the Operations Committee at their April 19 meeting reviewed the Department's 2006-07 budget, Department's move to 25 Van Ness and presentation on plan, and the Controller's Interim Audit Report. Future agenda items for the July 19 meeting include a discussion on outgoing grants and procedures, the fundraising plan for the move to 25 Van Ness, Farmer's Market update, and School Education program plans for next year and report on previous years accomplishments.

**15. INFORMATION: Policy Committee Report**

- Commissioner Wald reported that the Policy Committee at their March 13 meeting held discussions with the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission regarding Urban Environmental Accord Action 21, Water and on the application of the Precautionary Purchasing Principle to City contracts. At the May 16 meeting, a discussion was held on the Treasure Island Sustainability goals and principles and on the Impound Account Grant Guidelines. The Policy Committee is scheduled to hear the Organic Food Urban Environmental Accord topic at their June 12 meeting.

**16. INFORMATION: Director's Report (Explanatory Document: Director's Monthly Report May 2006 (Word)**

<http://sfgov.org/site/uploadedfiles/sfenvironment/meetings/coe/supporting/2006/DirectorsReportMay2006.doc>

- Ms. Nelly Sun, Management Assistant, Department of the Environment presented highlights on San Francisco administrative and programmatic operations relating to Budget Planning, Strategic Planning, Climate Division, Outreach and Education Division, Environmental Justice Division, Zero Waste, Toxics Reduction Program, and the Urban Forestry Division. More information is contained in the Director's Report explanatory document above.

**17. PRESIDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENTS.** President Pelosi Jr. discussed the Mayor's biodiesel initiatives, the Department's pharmaceutical recycling program, Department budget successes, and move to 25 Van Ness Avenue. Department staff was thanked for their effort and successes of the pharmaceutical recycling program. The Recycling staff, Legal Counsel, the Public, the Community Advocate and others were recognized for their participation in the refuse rate process that concluded on May 22.

**18. INFORMATION: New Business.** There was no new business heard at this time.

**19. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Members of the public may address the Commission on matters that are within the Commission's jurisdiction and are not on today's agenda.

Public Comment: Ms. Nancy Wuerfel requested an update on the United Nations move to the Department's offices. Director Blumenfeld reported that the Bay Area Council would provide a grant to the City for expenses incurred to host the United Nations office. Deputy Director Assmann reported that the move would initially be for one year and would be reevaluated at that time.

Public Comment: Mr. Emeric Kalman inquired as to why City Hall meetings that are interconnected overlap and commented on Treasure Island's unreinforced status, Navy transfer of ownership to the City, and the effect of an earthquake or natural disaster on Treasure Island, the Bay, and the City. Mr. Kalman asked if a technical and financial assessment was made on biodiesel. Director Blumenfeld discussed conversion of diesel engines to biodiesel, explained the renewable resources and financial feasibility of biodiesel.

**20. ADJOURNMENT.** The meeting of the Commission on the Environment adjourned at 6:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Monica Fish  
Commission Secretary  
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\*\* Copies of explanatory documents are available at (1) the Commission's office, 11 Grove Street, San Francisco, California between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., (2) on the Commission's website at [http://sfgov.org/site/sfenvironment\\_meeting.asp?id=15506](http://sfgov.org/site/sfenvironment_meeting.asp?id=15506); (3) upon request to the Commission Secretary, at telephone number 415-355-3709, or (4) via e-mail at [Monica.Fish@sfgov.org](mailto:Monica.Fish@sfgov.org).

Adopted: July 25, 2006