



Natural Resources Commission Meeting  
Monday, November 15, 2021 6:00 pm  
**MINUTES – Meeting via Zoom**

*Meeting Called to Order 6:02*

*Present were:*

Commission Members: Kurt Balasek, Kate Laddish, Eric J. and Carol Scianna  
Liaison members: Bill Biasi (City Council), Chris Rose (RCD- Resource Conservation District)  
& Planning Commission and Kristine DeGuerre (City)

Others: Rich Marovich (SCWA -Solano County Water Agency), Kathleen Trepka (City Manager),  
Katie Simpson (Winters Express) and Max Stevenson (Streamkeeper- SCWA as of 2022)

Absent: Dennis, Kilkenny Eric Larsen and Alli Permann (PCC-Putah Creek Council)

*Motion to approve Agenda by Carol. seconded Eric J.. - Approved.*

*Motion to approve August Minutes as amended by Carol seconded Eric J. - Approved*

Public Comments

None

Max Stevenson who will be the new StreamKeeper upon Rich's retirement, joined the meeting briefly and introduced himself to the NRC.

Discussion Items

1. Work Plan Development Goal Setting- All-

- One of the ideas discussed was taking on the project of updated the City's Master Tree List, promoting the Tree Rebate Program and other outreach regarding tree maintenance with the community. There was consensus that this would be a good project to take on.
- A suggestion to have a liaison on Design Review Committee discussion. City Manager clarified that development and other similar projects come under the purview of the Planning Commission for the most part, however the NRC could make recommendations to the Planning Commission that the DRC reviews.
- There was also interest in having a NRC member be a liaison on the newly forming Climate Action Commission.
- We could review and make recommendations to the municipal code and City policies that are relevant to our areas of concern.
- Kate asked about street lighting and its impact on birds, insects and night sky issues, and wondered if this is something we should look at. City Manager stated that typically City's engineering and public works staff oversees lighting specifications, including form and functionality of lighting options.



- Rich proposed working with Dry Creek residents to develop native planting opportunities to help with erosion issues. These efforts could include resident education, outreach and enlisting neighborhood volunteers.
- Kate suggested we work on education and outreach regarding community resilience to wildfires, targeting residents within the City. Yolo RCD would be a good resource to help with these efforts.
- Kurt offered draft a preliminary work plan summary for the members to review at next meeting.
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2. Use of goats for vegetation control in Winters Putah Creek Park—Eric J.  
This item was tabled to be included in our ongoing maintenance strategy as part of our developing work plan. Part of this continued discussion could include fire safe councils and environmental requirements in the Nature Park.

Other Item- Salmon Update- Rich

Rich informed members that a Wildlife refuge area near Yolo Bypass was allowing water to enter creek creating low dissolved oxygen in Putah creek and killing off returning salmon, 76 confirmed mortality thus far. Rich's conversations with the CA Department of Wildlife local site manager of the refuge have not dealt with the issue or appeared responsive to SCWA's concerns. Chair hopes to pass on another FWS contact who might be more helpful.

**Action Items**

None

Chair adjourned meeting at 7:29 pm.

**Next Meeting is December 20th**

**Future Meeting Topics will be added as a standing item to Agendas**

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Kurt Balasek, Chairman

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Carol Scianna, Member