

City of Calistoga
GREEN COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

November 8, 2022, via Zoom at 3:00 p.m.

1. ROLL CALL

Committee members present virtually: Chair Antoinette Mailliard, Vice Chair John Gleazer, Kate Stanley, June Knoblich, and Millie Pease. Staff members present: Jeff Mitchem, Lauren Clark, and Samantha Thomas.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA

One attendee was present, and no comments were received. The Core Rebate Program was moved to the top of the Agenda by Chair Mailliard.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Draft Minutes from October 11, 2022 were approved unanimously after making the following corrections: adding that the Leaf Blower Rebate closing on January 1, 2023, eliminating the statement under New Business, Item B, adding after the price of the EV chargers “per dual port charger” and eliminating the rest of the sentence, “and that it takes up 5 percent of the parking spaces”.

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. CORE Rebate Program

Staff member Clark reports no new applications for Leaf Blower Rebates. Chris Benz from Napa Climate NOW presents a brief overview of the state’s voucher program, CORE, which stands for clean offroad equipment. ~~She goes to say~~ The program launched November 7th and its goal is to incentivize small landscaping businesses to purchase zero emission equipment to prepare for the future State’s ban on the sale of gas-powdered equipment starting in 2024. The program has \$27 million in funds and covers 70% of the cost of eligible equipment. The equipment must be professional grade and have a 2-year warranty. It does not require scrapping old equipment. Most of the paperwork for the program is put on the dealer. The two companies in Napa County that are participating dealers are Napa Powder Equipment and Horizon Distributors. There are 10 companies in Sonoma County. The buyers have to provide a California ID, proof of ownership of a professional landscape services business that is considered small (fewer than 100 employees), micro business (fewer than 25 employees), or a sole proprietorship. Each business owner can use up to \$25,000 in vouchers. The program has been advertised via email, newspaper, fliers, radio adds, Napa Chamber of Commerce, and social media. She encourages the City of Calistoga to email the local landscaping businesses the flyer.

Committee member Pease notes that she has passed out CORE flyers and talked to Ace Hardware in Calistoga. Ace is not participating because they don’t sell the approved equipment. Chris Benz adds that there are Ace Hardware stores in Sonoma County that are participating, and that there are other programs being adopted in other jurisdictions. She clarifies that the business owners only need one voucher.

No action taken.

B. GC Logo

Committee member Stanley presents the two logos: a round logo and one in a vertical form for varying format needs.

Action Taken: A motion by committee member Pease to approve both logo styles was seconded by Committee Member Stanley and approved unanimously.

5. OLD BUSINESS

A. Update on Foodware and Waste Reduction Ordinance.

Chair Mailliard presents her recommended corrections to the Foodware and Waste Reduction Ordinance. The corrections suggested are as follows:

1. (P. 9) 18.17.30 B. Off Premises: to read, "Food providers may permit use of customer-provided bags and shall only provide food bags that are paper or compostable."
2. (P.9) 18.17.30 C. Off Premises: to read, "Food Providers may use single-use plastic bags only for liquid food items, such as soup or other liquids, where there is a clear need to prevent leakage." (delete "single-use") NOTE: Merchants use pretext that extra heavy-duty plastic bags can be considered multiple-use. Suppliers state, for example, that they are good for 125 uses. The point is to eliminate plastics associated with takeout and other food purchase.
3. (P. 11) 8.17.50 Exemptions, A 4: Change "Composable" to "Compostable"
4. (P. 11) 8.17.50 Exemptions, B.2 and C. Remove duplication re. Exemptions during states of emergency.
5. B. 2. Delete B.2
6. C. Retain provision C. as-is.

C. The provisions set forth in this chapter shall not apply during periods of declared emergencies (i.e., fire, earthquake, flood, etc.).

NOTE: The deleted paragraph B.2 has a lot of unnecessary detail. "C." is broader and effectively includes all that was in the deleted B.2.

The provision additions include:

1. P. 8) 8.17.30 Foodware Standards, B. Off Premises

Add language as #3, or include in #2: To read: "Food Providers shall not bundle disposable Foodware Accessories provided for delivery, takeout, curbside pickup and/or at self-serve stations for food and beverages consumed Off-Premises."

BACKGROUND NOTE Re. No. Bundling of Accessories: "No bundling" of Accessories is in California AB 1276 (Sec.3.42271.3) and is effectively part-and-parcel with the "request only" provision (AB 1376. Sec.3.42271.1) Both should be included in our ordinance ("Request-only" is in it) and should be side-by-side. Merchants and the city need this info in the ordinance. Expecting people know such a detail from AB 1276 is impractical. "No bundling" was definitely in the ordinance but apparently was accidentally omitted during the long iteration process.

FYI, “Accessories on-request only” is appropriately mentioned at least twice within the ordinance. The first appearance being in the introductory, 8.17.010 Purpose. (“...Additionally, it is the intent of this Chapter to comply with the requirements of California Assembly Bill 1276 (2021) and to require single use Foodware Accessories and Condiments packaged for single use to be provided only if requested by a Consumer.”

Action Taken: A motion is made by Chair Mailliard that the Foodware and Waste Reduction Ordinance, including Exhibits 1 and 2, be approved by the Green Committee for presentation for passage to the City Council at the earliest possible date, with the amendments suggested. The motion is seconded by Committee member Gleazer.

Action Taken: A second motion is made by Chair Mailliard that the Green Committee authorize Committee members Pease and Mailliard to work with City Staff to update the language in City Code Ch 19.12 Single-Use Carryout Bag Reduction to better reflect both the spirit and the letter of the City’s intention as stated in the “Whereas” section of the Foodware and Waste Reduction Ordinance, and to resolve any discrepancies in definitions and rules between Ch.19.12 and Ch. 8.17. The motion is seconded by Committee member Stanley.

B. Leaf Blower Ordinance- CORE Rebate Program

Moved to the top of the agenda under “New Business”.

No action taken.

C. Update on EV Chargers

Staff member Clark presents information on current EV chargers in Calistoga. It is not clear in all cases if private EV chargers are available to customers of the businesses only or are also accessible to the general public. Vice Chair Gleazer suggests inviting Public Works Director, Derek Ryner, to talk about EV chargers in town. It is suggested that Vice Chair Gleazer continue the research and to add to old business for the next meeting.

No action taken.

D. Update on Climate Lecture and Movie Series budget & outline

Committee member Stanley presents an update on the plans for the series. She mentions she is reaching out to different speakers, investigating how to rent movies such as Don’t Look Up and Life on our Planet, and insurance for the event. Laurel Rios is available to sell food at the event. She plans to advertise the event in the Tribune. The budget is still being comprised, but it should be ready by the next meeting. The potential of providing access to the event virtually is discussed. To put on old business for next meeting.

No action taken.

E. Update on Electric Bus- Letter to Council

Chair Mailliard confirms that the letter to City Council, that was authorized by the Committee regarding NVTa bus replacement, was sent to all Council members by Vice Chair Gleazer. Vice Chair Gleazer explains that the letter asked that rather than acquiring a new gas-powered bus on the proposed timeline, that the acquisition be delayed until an appropriately sized battery-powered bus becomes available. Vice Chair Gleazer noted that it appears that smaller electric busses are in the process of

approval. He will monitor the timing, approval, and availability and share information with the Green Committee, City Council and City Staff.

No action taken.

6. COMMITTEE MEMBERS' IDEAS & REQUESTS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION

The timeline of the Foodware and Waste Reduction Ordinance is clarified by Staff member Mitchem.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:26 PM.