

Commissioner Hafeman moved, and Commissioner Zornetzer seconded, a motion to approve the February 21, 2017 meeting minutes as modified. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Chair Paton
 Commissioner Hafeman
 Commissioner Zornetzer

No: 0

Absent: 2 - Vice Chair Srivastava
 Commissioner Kisyova

Abstain: 1 - Commissioner Wickham

PUBLIC HEARINGS/GENERAL BUSINESS

- 2** [17-0251](#) Recommendation to Council to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration and a Mitigation Monitoring Reporting Program for Animal Assisted Happiness at Baylands Park, Approve the Conceptual Plan and Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Sublease Agreement between the City and Animal Assisted Happiness

Craig Mobeck, Assistant Director of Public Works, presented information on the City's final Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) and additional actions associated with moving Animal Assisted Happiness (AAH) to Baylands Park in Sunnyvale. AAH is a non-profit organization that seeks to provide access to barnyard animals for improving the well-being of children and families with special needs. Mr. Mobeck stated that the proposed facility would be located in the northwestern portion of the park and construction activities would be avoided during the bird breeding season (February 1 through August 31). A Mitigation and Monitoring program has been developed to mitigate impacts on air quality (from manure), wildlife (on birds at the site), and cultural resources (for any materials unearthed during the proposed minimal excavation).

The Commissioners raised and discussed several issues with Assistant Director Mobeck, including the potential health risks posed by domestic animals on wild animals, safety concerns surrounding hogs, potential impacts on burrowing owl habitat, and questions about the methods for animal waste disposal. In addition, Vicki Amon-Higa, President of AAH, provided clarification on several points, including that AAH's proposed move from its current location at Full Circle Farm to Baylands Park would provide a larger space for the animals. Chair Paton appreciated the artful placement of AAH in the park, which will leave most of the trees untouched, addressing previous concerns with the project.

Commissioner Hafeman moved and Commissioner Wickham seconded a motion to

recommend that Council approve the staff recommendation to adopt the MND and a Mitigation Monitoring Program for AAH, approve the conceptual plans for siting AAH at the park, and authorize the City Manager to execute a sublease agreement with AAH. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 4 - Chair Paton
 Commissioner Hafeman
 Commissioner Wickham
 Commissioner Zornetzer

No: 0

Absent: 2 - Vice Chair Srivastava
 Commissioner Kisyova

- 3** [17-0362](#) Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Accelerating Climate Action as a Council Priority

Commissioner Wickham initiated a discussion on an opportunity to leverage the Sustainability Commission's expertise in assisting with the Council priority to accelerate climate action. She suggested that the Commission could do this by recommending that the City Council: (1) create a Citizen's Advisory Group (CAG), which would consist of at least three Sustainability Commissioners; and (2) direct the Sustainability Commission to investigate best practices and innovative funding mechanisms to develop and implement actions not currently in Sunnyvale's Climate Action Plan (CAP) and to inform the scope of work for the anticipated consultant services needed to develop a revised CAP.

The Commission discussed its possible role in revising the CAP and asked several clarification questions of staff related to process and timing of making recommendations. Key points of this discussion included: (1) The formation of and selection of members for a CAG would require Council action; (2) Staff is responsible for developing a strategy for how to accelerate climate action, based on direction by Council; (3) Staff is currently developing a work plan and budget supplement for how to accelerate climate action for Council's review and decision in May 2017; (4) Recommendations on benchmarking other communities can be done over the course of the CAP revision process, however, the Commission's suggestions for incorporating specific requirements into the consultant's scope of work should be provided to staff sooner rather than later.

Elaine Marshall, Environmental Programs Manager, noted that the staff's work plan contemplates having a revised CAP by December 2018 (eighteen months from