SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

1155 Market St., 11th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94103 • Tel. (415) 554-3155 • Fax (415) 554-3161 • TTY (415) 554.3488

EDWIN M. LEE
MAYOR

FRANCESCA VIETOR
PRESIDENT

ANSON MORAN
VICE PRESIDENT

ANN MOLLER CAEN
COMMISSIONER

ART TORRES
COMMISSIONER

VINCE COURTNEY
COMMISSIONER

ED HARRINGTON
GENERAL MANAGER

San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
Citizens' Advisory Committee

Draft Minutes

January 25, 2011

5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
1155 Market Street
4th Floor Conference Room

Members

Alex Lantsberg– Chair	Lurilla Harris	Erwin Tanjuaquio
– Vice Chair	Winchell Hayward	Laura Tam
Jennifer Clary	Art Jensen	Doug Cain
David Drabkin	Walt Farrell	Judy West - Secretary
Karen Donovan	Richard T. Hansen	

Members of the Public: Peter Brastow

Staff: Maureen Barry

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Call to order

Chair Lantsberg called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. when the CAC achieved quorum.

2. Roll Call

Present: Lantsberg, Cain, Clary, Donovan, Hansen, Harris, Jensen, Farrell, West,

Absent: Drabkin, Hayward, Tam, Tanjuaquio,

3. Approval of the minutes of the September 28, 2010 meeting.

J West moved; J. Clary seconded. Minutes approved by acclamation.

4. Public Comment – members of the public may address the Committee on matters that are within the Committee's jurisdiction and are not on today's agenda.

Chair requested moving the agenda to item 7 so that the member of public who was in attendance could formally continue the discussion he began as the CAC was assembling. A Jensen moved and J Clary seconded.

7. Biodiversity Watershed in San Francisco Resolution (attached)

Prior to taking up this resolution, Peter Brastow continued his discussion of Native Plants and managing the local habitat appropriately. He provided handy brochures with helpful tips to manage yards, grasslands and other San Francisco habitat. Mr. Brastow urged the CAC to consider the drafted resolution, and cited numerous local environmental groups who supported it. He also mentioned that he had coordinated with SFPUC local water operations about how the proposed resolution might be implemented.

A Jensen asked whether this resolution would affect discussions regarding Francisco Reservoir. After much discussion on this topic by several CAC members, it was concluded that the resolution should be put forward and that Russian Hill reservoir issue should not override it. J Clary noted also explained that a similar environmental stewardship resolution was adopted in 2006 that covered regional SFPUC properties but not local San Francisco property. This resolution would bring SF properties into the fold.

Suggested that the last paragraph be amended to say "….annual budget including funding for the production <u>and implementation</u> of a natural resources management plan." There were no objections to suggested language and the resolution was passed unanimously.

5. Report from the Chair

A reception will be held for all CAC members next month on February 22 during the regularly scheduled time slot. SFPUC Assistant General Managers will be present along with other staff members. R Hansen noted that the committee is somewhat depleted of its membership and suggested this event might be an opportunity to invite folks who may be interested in serving on the CAC. J Clary suggested we extend an invitation to the many folks who participated in the Recycled Water recent meetings.

The Chair apologized that a second resolution was inadvertently dropped from tonight's agenda but it will be carried over to the next meeting.

Discussion about openings on the Committee continued. Among the suggestions, R Hansen noted that it would be helpful to have a finance expert on each subcommittee noting that "we have to be prepared to pay our bills". Chair outlined where vacancies existed and asked staff to help suggest replacements:

a) Mayor Lee: 1) Large water user and 2) Finance or technical representative
b) President of BOS: 1) Small business representative
c) Supervisor openings: Districts: 5, 6, and 10

K Donovan suggested we send letter to all making them aware of the openings and CAC's desire to have a full complement of members. Chair and Secretary will coordinate w C Galvan to get this letter out. J Clary also asked that the CAC be made aware of chronic no shows. C Galvan said she was also going to make appointers aware of appointees that miss three or more meetings. C Galvan noted that she has been requested to provide additional information about who is on the Committee as to gender, ethnicity, attendance, etc.

8. Subcommittee Reports

A) Water: J Clary reported that as a result of CAC ordinances enacted regarding wastewater, greening and landscape uses, PUC now has a desk at Dept of Building Inspection. She commented that its presence could be improved and that CAC member Cain would test out its services.
J West asked about flood zone disclosures when people buy property as opposed to when they attempt to get building permits. K Donovan says that the State provides this information and that it was not the purview of the SFPUC.

Chair added that this issue about flood zone might be a potential agenda item. He added that with rates going up that a refresher about the rate structure would also be appropriate for future meetings.

B) Power: D Cain said the subcommittee has not meant in several months due to lack of quorum. He noted, however, there were some burning issues that deserved attention such as Moccasin power facilities needing a serious upgrade. He also questioned how productive or meaningful suggested projects such as adding solar to the Opera House or Davis Hall really were as opposed to other enterprise needs. There were similar comments of the same sentiment and D Cain noted that there could be a much better Return on Investment (ROI) at Moccasin than with the Opera project as an example. A Jensen added that there is also a host of infrastructure projects planned for upcountry that don't appear to be getting as much attention as they probably should.

D Cain noted that SFPUC power staff had indicated that it is possible to achieve some real efficiency with minor investment in upgrading Moccasin power facilities. He said he was concerned that this was not adequately being discussed by Commission. A Jensen encouraged Cain to plug this topic into the Committee and bring it forward to Commission. A Jensen also suggested that the CAC receive the SFPUC Policy Calendar as well as the Commission agenda.

C) Wastewater: It was reported that starting next month Laura Tam would be the new chair of this subcommittee. Among the topics the subcommittee may review are: Status of Capital programs, Community Benefits—as it is ironed out in more detail, and workforce development. The Chair complimented new AGM Ellis for trying to roll up on these issues into a more deliberate and encompassing plan. J Clary suggested that the CAC members be sent the Executive Summary of the Community Benefits report or the survey and related comments.

9. Planning for 2011 Meeting Speakers & Presentations

1) Flood zone disclosures
2) Five-year rate study
3) Community Benefits program
4) Energy Efficiency projects

10. Announcements

Chair noted that the History Channel had contacted him about a series on wastewater featuring various cities. They will be here in mid-February to discuss wastewater/stormwater issues. He suggested that speak with flooding victims and others.

L Harris encouraged the SFPUC to work more closely with Native Plant Society. Members noted that several SFPUC staff are members and do collaborate with the Society. She asked about circulating the brochures that were handed out at the meeting by Mr. Brastow. The information is available on line at cpns-yerbabuena.org.

11. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:06 pm.