



**SF Environment**  
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A Department of the City and County of San Francisco

London N. Breed  
Mayor

Deborah O. Raphael  
Director

## City and County of San Francisco Commission on the Environment

### MEETING MINUTES DRAFT

Tuesday, November 27, 2018, 5:00 P.M.  
City Hall, Room 416  
One Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Jr. Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102

**COMMISSION MEMBERS:** Elmy Bermejo (President), Johanna Wald (Vice President), Eddie Ahn, Lisa Hoyos, Heather Stephenson, Mike Sullivan and Sarah Wan.

### ORDER OF BUSINESS

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

#### 1) Call to Order and Roll Call.

The Commission on the Environment meeting was convened at 5:02 p.m.

Present: Commissioners Bermejo, Wald, Ahn, Hoyos (arrived at 5:43 p.m.), Stephenson, Sullivan and Wan.

#### 2) President's Welcome. (Discussion)

President Bermejo welcome meeting attendees and discussed the agenda.

There was no public comment.

#### 3) Approval of minutes of the September 25, 2018 Commission on the Environment meeting. (Explanatory Documents: September 25, 2018 Draft Minutes) (Discussion and Action)

Upon a motion by Commissioner Wan and second by Commissioner Stephenson the minutes were approved without objection. (Ayes: Commissioners Bermejo, Wald, Ahn, Stephenson, Sullivan and Wan; Noes: None; Absent: Commissioner Hoyos)

There was no public comment.

#### 4) Approval of minutes of the October 24, 2018 Commission on the Environment joint meeting with the Commission on the Status of Women. (Explanatory Documents: October 24, 2018 Draft Minutes) (Discussion and Action)

Upon a motion by Commissioner Stephenson and second by Commissioner Wan the minutes were approved without objection. (Ayes: Commissioners Bermejo, Wald, Ahn, Stephenson, Sullivan and Wan; Noes: None; Absent: Commissioner Hoyos)

There was no public comment.

- 5) **General public comment:** Members of the public may address the Commission on matters that are within the Commission's jurisdiction and are not on today's agenda.

Anastasia Glikshtern discussed the use of pesticides in San Francisco.

#### PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS

- 6) **Discussion of the American Planning Association Award for Excellence in Sustainability for the San Francisco Better Roofs Ordinance.** (Discussion)

Deborah Raphael, Director, introduced the item.

Jeff Joslin, Director of Current Planning, San Francisco Planning Department, discussed the San Francisco Better Roofs Ordinance and implementation including media coverage, collaboration with other agencies, the plan and roadmap, the Green Roof Cost-Benefit study, the Living Roof Manual, tax revenue improvements and greenhouse gas reductions, policies developed in other jurisdictions and the American Planning Association Award for Excellence in Sustainability for the San Francisco Better Roofs Ordinance.

Commissioner Sullivan asked about the complaint process for aesthetics of green roofs.

Commissioner Wald asked about San Francisco's shade ordinance.

There was no public comment.

#### REGULAR AGENDA

- 7) **Discussion of blockchain technology and the future of environmental programs and policies.** Sponsor: Heather Stephenson, Commissioner; (Discussion)

Commissioner Stephenson introduced the item.

- a) **Presentation on the uses and challenges of blockchain technology.** Speaker: Ashley Lannquist, Project Lead for Blockchain and Distributed Ledger Technology, World Economic Forum LLC. Ashley Lannquist, Project Lead for Blockchain and Distributed Ledger Technology, World Economic Forum LLC, discussed the uses and challenges of blockchain technology including features, key potential capabilities, technical downsides, tradeoffs of a decentralized versus centralized system and consensus mechanisms.
- b) **Presentation on blockchain technology and the future of environmental programs and policies.** Speaker: Amit Pradhan, Founding Member and President, Silicon Valley Blockchain Society.

Amit Pradhan, Founding Member and President, Silicon Valley Blockchain Society discussed blockchain technology and the future of environmental programs and policies including global

power consumption, regulations by country, regulatory environment in the European Union, policies in the country of Malta and potential uses of blockchain technology to aid sustainability initiatives.

Commissioner Stephenson about ways the distributed ledger system is being used in a decentralized system.

Director Raphael asked how policy makers can use their collective interest in the environment to influence companies to act responsibly.

Commissioner Sullivan asked about what governments can do reduce the amount of energy used by blockchain technology.

Commissioner Stephenson asked what kinds of public good programs can be envisioned by blockchain technology.

Commissioner Wald asked about industry interest in tracking food and using the technology as a communication device.

Director Raphael asked about the system of tracking and verification of products in the distribution chain.

Commissioner Wald asked about how blockchain technology treats the definition of labels such as organic.

Public Comment:

Eric Brooks discussed expertise on various aspects of blockchain technology.

**8) Director's Report.** Speaker: Deborah Raphael, Director (Explanatory Document: Director's Report) (Discussion)

Deborah Raphael, Director, discussed the new zero waste system, the opening of Recology's west wing composting facility, zero waste facilitator legislation, the Better at the Bin campaign, amendments to the plastic and litter reduction ordinance, the Green Christmas Tree program, the Annual Tree Chipping event, an event with Dr. Elizabeth Beacon, a viewing of the movie The Devil We Know and introduced new staff.

Commissioner Bermejo asked if there were limited number of spaces for the events discussed in the Director's Report.

Public Comment:

Erick Brooks, San Francisco Green Party, discussed renewable diesel and community choice.

**9) Committee Reports.** Highlights of the October 17, 2018 Operations Committee meeting and the October 22, 2018 and November 12, 2018 Policy Committee meetings. (Discussion)

Commissioner Wald discussed the October 22, 2018 Policy Committee meeting including presentations of the commitments that the City signed onto during the Global Climate Action

Summit with a focus on zero waste and global warming and that the Committee received an update on the Department of the Environment's legislative activity.

Commissioner Stephenson discussed the November 27, 2018 Operations Committee meeting including a presentation on the Department budget, a presentation on the outreach for the new zero waste program and a presentation on the Bucket or Bin Top battery recycling campaign.

Public Comment:

Eric Brooks discussed battery collection bins in multifamily buildings.

**10) Announcements.** (Discussion)

There were no announcements.

There was no public comment.

**11) New Business/Future Agenda Items.** Speaker: Charles Sheehan, Chief Policy and Public Affairs Officer (Explanatory Document: 2019 Commission on the Environment Meeting Schedule) (Discussion and Possible Action)

Anthony Valdez, Commission Secretary, gave the new business report and discussed items for the January 22, 2019 Commission meeting including the Department budget, the Commission annual report and officer elections.

Public Comment:

Erick Brooks, San Francisco Green Party and Our City, discussed the Reduced Risk Pesticide List, CleanPowerSF and cryptocurrency.

**12) Public comment on all matters pertaining to the subsequent closed session on Public Employee Performance Plan and Appraisal Report.**

There was no public comment.

**13) Vote on whether to hold closed session to evaluate the performance of the Executive Director, Deborah Raphael.** (Cal. Govt. Code § 54957; SF Admin. Code § 67.10(b).) (Action)

Upon a motion by Commissioner Wald and second by Commissioner Ahn the Commission moved into closed session without objection. (Ayes: Commissioners Bermejo, Wald, Ahn, Hoyos, Stephenson, Sullivan and Wan; Noes: None; Absent: None)

**14) CLOSED SESSION – PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE PLAN AND APPRAISAL REPORT**  
**Possible closed session to evaluate the performance of the Executive Director, Deborah Raphael.** (Explanatory Document: Performance Plan and Appraisal Report) (Cal. Govt. Code § 54957; SF Admin. Code § 67.10(b).) (Discussion and Possible Action)

The Commission moved into closed session at 7:10 p.m. and reconvened in open session at 9:01 p.m. Present for the closed session were Commissioners Bermejo, Wald, Ahn, Hoyos, Stephenson, Sullivan and Wan.

## OPEN SESSION

Reconvene in open session:

**Vote to elect whether to disclose any or all discussions held in closed session.** (SF Admin. Code § 67.12(a).) (Action)

Upon a motion by Commissioner Hoyos and second by Commissioner Stephenson the Commission voted not to disclose any or all discussions held in closed session without objection. (Ayes: Commissioners Bermejo, Wald, Ahn, Hoyos, Stephenson, Sullivan and Wan; Noes: None; Absent: None)

### 15) **Vote on whether to make a recommendation to the Department of Human Resources to increase the compensation of the Executive Director, Deborah Raphael.** (Discussion and Action)

Upon a motion by Commissioner Wald and second by Commissioner Hoyos the Commission voted to make a recommendation to the Department of Human Resources to increase the compensation of the Executive Director, Deborah Raphael because of extraordinary performance in 2018 without objection. (Ayes: Commissioners Bermejo, Wald, Ahn, Hoyos, Stephenson, Sullivan and Wan; Noes: None; Absent: None)

Commissioner Wald amended the motion to include the words "extraordinary performance in 2018" which was accepted without objection.

There was no public comment.

### 16) **Adjournment.**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

**The next Regular Meeting of the Commission on the Environment is scheduled for Tuesday, January 22, 2019, 5:00 p.m. at City Hall, Room 416.**

\*\* Copies of explanatory documents are available at (1) the Commission's office, 1455 Market Street, Suite 1200, San Francisco, California, 94103 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Photo identification is required for entry to the building. (2) on the Commission's website <http://www.sfenvironment.org/commission>; (3) upon request to the Commission Affairs Manager, at telephone number 415-355-3709, or via e-mail at [anthony.e.valdez@sfgov.org](mailto:anthony.e.valdez@sfgov.org) within three business days of a meeting. If any materials related to an item on this agenda have been distributed to the Commission after distribution of the agenda packet, those materials are available for public inspection at the Department of the Environment, 1455 Market Street, Suite 1200, San Francisco, CA 94103 during normal office hours or will be made available on the Commission's website <http://www.sfenvironment.org/commission> as attachments to the agenda or meeting minutes. Written public comment received by the Commission will be posted as an attachment to the minutes.

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