

AGENDA

COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

REGULAR MEETING

April 25, 2012

9:30 A.M.

Laguna Woods City Hall
Council Chambers
24264 El Toro Road
Laguna Woods, CA 92637

AGENDA DESCRIPTION: The Agenda descriptions are intended to give notice, to members of the public, of a general summary of items of business to be transacted or discussed.

Any person wishing to address the Community Services Committee on any matter, whether or not it appears on this agenda, may do so under the appropriate section of the agenda. Whenever possible, lengthy testimony should be presented to the Committee in writing (12 copies) and only pertinent points presented orally. Requests to speak to items on the agenda shall be heard at the appropriate point on the agenda; requests to speak about subjects not on the agenda will be heard during the **Public Comment** section of the meeting.

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. PRESENTATIONS

IV. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

A. City's Proposed Ban on Polystyrene

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Discuss and recommend that the City Council proceed with a ban on polystyrene foam (EPS and XPS) food takeout containers and single use food service ware in restaurants and food facilities doing business in the City of Laguna Woods.

B. Status Report on Sunday Movie Matinees

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Review the schedule for Sunday Movie Matinees in May and June and discuss potential movies.

C. Promoting and Celebrating Diversity in the City

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Discuss with the Committee a variety of different programs and estimated costs for promoting and celebrating diversity in the City of Laguna Woods.

V. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Social and Health Services – meets third Thursday at 10 a.m.
- B. Arts, Culture & Recreation – meets fourth Friday at 10 a.m.
- C. Community Relations – meets first Monday at 10 a.m.
- D. Transportation Programs/Services – meets third Monday at 10 a.m.

VI. INTERACTION WITH COMMITTEES AND ORGANIZATIONS

- A. Greening Committee
- B. Friends of the Library

VII. PROJECT UPDATES

- A. Street Improvement Project Updates
- B. Landscape Improvement Project Updates
- C. City Hall Improvement Projects Updates

VIII. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS

X. ADJOURN

Next regular Community Services Committee meeting is scheduled for May 23, 2012

RECAP

COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

REGULAR MEETING
March 28, 2012
9:30 A.M.

Laguna Woods City Hall
Council Chambers
24264 El Toro Road
Laguna Woods, CA 92637

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I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 9:30 am by Committee Chairman Coles.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Coles, Gormin, Greenes, Lawyer, Levine, Oakes, Rhodes, Sheppard, Singer

Absent:

III. PRESENTATIONS

No presentations,

IV. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

A. Promoting and Celebrating Diversity in the City

Representatives from the OC Human Relations made a presentation to the committee on a variety of programs that the city could sponsor in the future to promote and celebrate diversity. The committee scheduled this item for further discussion at their meeting in April.

B. Status Report on Sunday Movie Matinee

Community Services Manager, Patrick Foley gave the Committee an overview of the attendance at the Sunday movie matinee on March 25, 2012. The committee will discuss potential movies and scheduling for the remaining Sunday Movie Matinees at their meeting in April.

C. April Goods Exchange and Clean Up Day at City Hall.

The Community Services Manager, Patrick Foley reviewed with the Committee the promotional flyers and press release for the upcoming Goods Exchange on Saturday, April 21st from 8:30a.m. to 1 p.m. Most of the Committee Members volunteered to work on that day assisting residents.

V. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Representatives from each of the subcommittees gave a brief update on the status of their current activities.

VI. INTERACTION WITH COMMITTEES AND ORGANIZATIONS

A. Environmental Committee

No report at this time.

B. Friends of the Library

The Friends are planning an electronic device workshop on downloading e books from the library.

VII. PROJECT UPDATES

A. Street Improvement Project Updates

The street improvements on Moulton continue.

B. Landscape Improvement Project Updates

The landscaping of the medians on Moulton and El Toro will begin in April.

C. City Hall Improvements Projects Update

The City Hall accessibility improvements project will be out to bid in April with the award scheduled for May.

VIII. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

None.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

X. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 10:47 a.m.

Next regular Community Services Committee meeting will be held on April 25, 2012.

City of Laguna Woods Agenda Report

FOR: April 25, 2012 Community Services Committee Meeting
TO: Chair and Committee Members
FROM: Leslie A. Keane, City Manager
AGENDA ITEM: Polystyrene Foam Food Ware Utensils

Recommendation

Discuss and recommend that the City Council proceed with a ban on polystyrene foam (EPS and XPS) food takeout containers and single use food service ware in restaurants and food facilities doing business in the City of Laguna Woods.

Background

In May 2004, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 05-04, which commits the City to refrain from purchasing or using any food service products which are produced with expandable polystyrene. This prohibition includes all City facilities and City co-sponsorship of any event at a third party facility.

In 2009, the City's Greening the Woods Committee's blue ribbon report included a recommendation that the City adopt regulations that would prohibit the use of expandable polystyrene products for restaurant take-out food; the term "restaurant" including any food facility licensed by the County and providing food to the general public. At that time, the City Council decided to pursue a voluntary program with recognition rather than a prohibition. Although the majority of food facilities in the City have shifted to other products, some retain the use of polystyrene foam products.

In 2011, the gated community of Laguna Woods Village banned the use of polystyrene products at clubhouses and recreational facilities, including caterers and vendors using these facilities.

At its March 21, 2012 meeting, the City Council reconsidered the possibility of banning polystyrene foam take-out containers and single use food service ware, and directed staff to draft an ordinance for consideration.

Discussion

Expanded and extruded polystyrene foam (EPS/XPS), commonly known as Styrofoam®, is pervasive in the marine environment. Like most plastics, polystyrene is lightweight and floats. When littered, it breaks down into small pieces which are often mistaken by marine animals as food. A study of beach debris at 43 sites along the Orange County coast found EPS/XPS to be the second most abundant form of beach debris.

Polystyrene foam also has a very low recycling rate. According to a 2004 study by the California Integrated Waste Management Board, of the 377,580 tons of polystyrene produced in the state, only 0.8% was recycled. Currently, the City's waste hauler is accepting a small amount of polystyrene foam, which is being recycled with mixed plastics. The amount that can be recycled in this manner is very limited. In addition, there is virtually no market for polystyrene that has been contaminated with food.

The City's Greening Committee has asked the Council to reconsider a ban on polystyrene foam for restaurant take-out containers and single use food service ware (utensils and cups). Currently, the Orange County cities of Dana Point, Laguna Beach, Newport Beach and San Clemente have implemented such regulations. The Cities of Aliso Viejo, Huntington Beach, Laguna Hills and San Juan Capistrano have regulations prohibiting the use of polystyrene at city facilities and events similar to those currently in place in Laguna Woods.

Polystyrene foam bans generally have a period in time for businesses to dispose of existing products – staff is recommending six months; an exception for pre-packaged food; a hardship exception for small businesses or events; and progressive fines for violations (\$100 – 500). Regulations also do not generally prohibit use of polystyrene foam in private homes, institutions or businesses.

This matter is scheduled to go to the City Council for introduction and first reading on May 16, 2012. Staff has completed an initial environmental checklist and proposes that the project be given a negative declaration. A notice of intent has been mailed to interested parties and published in the Laguna Woods Globe. A

ITEM IV.A

notice of the public hearing will be posted in the Globe at least 10 days prior to the May City Council meeting.

Conclusion

The City's Greening Committee is asking that the City consider broadening its partial ban on polystyrene foam products to include restaurant food take-out containers and single use food service ware. The City Council has directed staff to draft such regulations for consideration at their May 2012 meeting.