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MEETING MINUTES  
January 19, 2023  
7:00 PM

**I. Call to Order & Orders of the Day**

**Roll Call**

PRESENT: Chair Ruth Merino, Desiree Grahn, Glen Garfunkel, Victor Niemeyer, Richard Zahner, Ted Marena

ABSENT: Vice Chair Anthony Strawa

- Staff present: Director Lori Mitchell, Assistant Director Zach Struyk, Public Information Manager Amanda Orozco, Power Resources Specialist Marcos Santiago, Senior Environmental Programs Manager Kate Ziemba, Deputy Director Julie Benabente (Environmental Services Department), and Environmental Services Specialist Viridiana Nguyen-Santoyo (Environmental Services Department).
- Community members in attendance – Paul Soto, Karen Nelson, Nicholas Ochoa, and Heirikka Kame.

**Call to Order & Orders of the Day**

Chair Merino convened the Clean Energy Community Advisory Commission at 7:05 p.m. via zoom.

**II. Public Record**

None on file.

**III. Public Comment**

Paul Soto spoke.

**IV. Consent Calendar**

Approve the minutes for the Regular Meeting Minutes of November 3, 2022.

Document Filed: November 3, 2022, Regular Meeting Minutes.

Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Garfunkel and seconded by Commissioner Niemeyer and carried, the minutes were unanimously approved (6-0-0).

**V. Reports and Information Only**

A. Chair Merino. No update.

B. Staff Update: Zach Struyk provided an update on 2023 rates, high gas natural prices, and recent items brought to City Council. Lori Mitchell provided an update on item going to City Council on January 24, 2023.

**VI. New Business**

A. Receive briefing and give comment on SJCE Programs Roadmap Update  
(Potential action)

- Public comment from Paul Soto.
- Kate Ziemba and Marcos Santiago provided an update on the SJCE Programs Roadmap.
- Commissioners asked questions and discussion ensued.

Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Garfunkel and seconded by Commissioner Marena and carried, the Commission approved the CECAC recommendation (page 3) to be included in the Community Energy Department's memo to the Transportation and Environment Committee (5-1-0).

B. Receive briefing and give comment on creation of Climate Commission  
(Potential action)

- Public comment from Paul Soto.
- Zach Struyk presented background on concept to establish a new climate commission.
- Commissioners asked questions and provided feedback on the concept.

Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Grahn and seconded by Commissioner Garfunkel and carried, the Commission approved the CECAC recommendation (page 3) to be included in the Environmental Services Department's memo to City Council (5-1-0).

**VII. Old Business**

There was no old business.

**VIII. Meeting Schedule and Agenda Items**

The next meeting is scheduled for March 23, 2023 at 6:00 PM. The next meeting will be held in person. Location to be determined.

*Potential agenda items for next meeting or other future meeting:*

- *Outreach and Advocacy Strategy*
- *Regulatory and Legislative Plans for 2023*
- *Elect CECAC Officers*

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**IX. Adjournment**

Chair Merino adjourned the meeting at approximately 9:33 p.m.

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RUTH MERINO, CHAIR

ATTEST:  
CLEAN ENERGY COMMUNITY ADVISORY SECRETARY

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Adrienne Barreto, COMMISSION SECRETARY

### **CECAC RECOMMENDATION**

**A. Receive briefing and give comment on SJCE Programs Roadmap Update  
(Potential action)**

During the meeting on January 19, 2023, the Clean Energy Community Advisory Commission (CECAC) agreed with staff recommendations on the 2023 programs roadmap update. The CECAC further agrees with the recommendation that in the near term, before SJCE builds its operational reserves, SJCE will continue to execute existing programs and develop new educational pilots and programs that largely leverage external funding and set the groundwork for future program success. SJCE staff should focus on cost effectiveness and recognize that success will be driven by effective coordination with external partners and agencies.

**B. Receive briefing and give comment on creation of Climate Action Commission  
(Potential action)**

During the meeting on January 19, 2023, the Clean Energy Community Advisory Commission (CECAC) was presented the concept of establishing a new citywide Climate Commission where CECAC members are invited to serve the remainder of their term. Overall, the CECAC was supportive of the concept and offered feedback on the scope and composition of the commission. Specifically, CECAC recommends seats be filled by San José residents who represent a balance of community members and experts. CECAC also recommends City staff consider increasing the size to 11 seats. Finally, CECAC recommends that commissioners, City staff, and the public be able to nominate candidates for the new Climate Commission to assist with filling vacancies. CECAC looks forward to further engagement from City staff on the formation of the new commission.