

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF LA MESA
ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION
6:00 PM, CITY MANAGER'S CONFERENCE ROOM
8130 ALLISON AVENUE, LA MESA, CA 91942
TELECONFERENCE MEETING WEBINAR**

MINUTES
June 21, 2021

1. CALL TO ORDER (6:02 p.m.)
2. ROLL CALL (X indicates present)

Andrea Beth Damsky, Chair	X
Ricky Williams, Vice-Chair	X
Stephen Grooms	
Trey McDonald	X
Jean-Guillaume Lonjaret	X
Mike Bourton	X
Maggie Eggers (EDCO)	X
Joe Garuba (Helix Water District)	
Joe Britton (SDG&E)	X
Sebastian Sarria, San Diego Community Power	X
Vacant (Youth Rep)	
Vacant (La Mesa-Spring Valley School District)	
Vacant (Helix Charter High School)	

Others present: Hilary Ego, Environmental Program Manager; Megan Wiegelman, City Clerk

Public present: Debbie Kinsinger, resident; Mark Gracyk, Elected Division 3 Director of Helix Water District

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments submitted or stated.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – April 19, 2021

Ricky Williams had a correction for item 4

Trey McDonald had a correction for item ten.

Approval of minutes from the May 17, 2021 meeting.

Action:	Motion to approve minutes by Ricky Williams; second by Jean-Guillaume Lonjaret
Vote:	5-0
Ayes:	Damsky, Williams, Lonjaret, McDonald, Bourton
Noes:	None
Abstained:	None
Absent:	Grooms

5. CITY STAFF UPDATES

Hilary Ego gave updates on the following items:

- Tree planting for spring complete
- San Diego Community Power roll out ongoing, with commercial businesses launching June 1
- Organics program started April 1st for residents. Commercial and multifamily to start in Summer.
- Proposition 218 process for the trash fee rate review. Letters were mailed to property owners and the public hearing is scheduled for June 22, 2021.
- Progress updates for CAP 2020 Annual Report and FY22-23 CAP Implementation Plan Update
- EV grants
- Interns completed projects

6. PRESENTATION BY CITY CLERK ON REVIEW OF THE BROWN ACT AND ROBERT'S RULE OF ORDER (MEGAN WIEGELMAN)

The City of La Mesa's City Clerk, Megan Wiegelman, presented on the Brown Act and Robert's Rule of Order.

A Brown Act meeting is a congregation of a majority of the members of a legislative body. Quorum is majority of voting members present, therefore the Environmental Sustainability Commission requires 4 to have quorum. Agendas must be made available to the public. Items that are on the scheduled agenda are discussed. The Chair and Vice Chair lead the Commission meeting.

Megan also provided details on things to avoid to prevent Brown Act violations, such as serial meetings, daisy-chain, and hub and spoke.

Megan described an ad hoc subcommittee and that it contains less than a quorum (no more than 3). They are temporary in nature and must know the end date and have a specific goal. Ad hoc subcommittees are not subject to the Brown Act and are not open to the public. The subcommittees will share their progress at Commission meetings, where the other Commissions and members of the public can comment on it then.

Megan described Roberts Rule of Order, which outlines how a meeting is run. Meetings are run by the Chair. The Chair has the ability to decrease the amount of time to reduce time of public comment. The Chair will lead an action and vote.

Trey asked how to receive direction from Council if their role is to advise Council. Megan replied that the Commission goes to Council once a year during their Work Plan update, unless something is brought up by Council and they direct the Environmental Sustainability Commission.

Rick asked if the former CAP Subcommittee can still exist as a standing committee. Megan responded that standing committees fall under the Brown Act, while ad hoc subcommittees do not and noted there are also not enough staff resources to have continuous standing committees for commissions.

7. PRESENTATION OF FY22-23 CAP IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Hilary Ego asked the Chair to move this item to the July meeting.

8. DISCUSSION OF AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEES AND WORK PLAN (ABD)

Hilary Ego stated a list of ad hoc subcommittee ideas for projects or programs that are in the CAP.

Public comment from Debbie Kinsinger – Debbie expressed her interest in the Environmental Sustainability Commission vacancy and is interested in getting involved.

Jean-Guillaume Lonjaret stated two ideas to add to the list: single use plastic and source reduction and water use reduction.

Michael Bourton stated one idea to add to the list: Energy storage systems.

Rick Williams inquired about SANDAG's Regional Transportation Plan and how the Commission can be involved with reviewing. Hilary will research and provide an update later.

Andrea Beth Damsky stated she was interested in working on no idling and integrated pest management.

Jean-Guillaume Lonjaret and Michael Bourton expressed interest in being part of a building decarbonization ad hoc subcommittee. Ricky Williams clarified what this ad hoc subcommittee would work on, and made a motion to create it.

Action: Motion by Ricky Williams and seconded by Trey McDonald to proceed with the formation of the building decarbonization ad hoc subcommittee comprised of Commissioners Jean-Guillaume Lonjaret and Michael Bourton with the goal of adding the following key actions to the next work plan: recommending a draft ordinance, identify best practices for decarbonization, and explore including the topic in the next CAP update. The ad hoc subcommittee would end in February 2022, once the next Work Plan is approved.

Vote: 5-0
Ayes: Bourton, McDonald, Damsky, Lonjaret, Williams
Noes: None
Abstained: None
Absent: Grooms

Members of the commission asked if non voting members can join an ad hoc subcommittee. Hilary responded that she will ask for clarification and let them know.

Discussion – Can nonvoting members join an ad hoc subcommittee. Joe would like to participate in general. What's the flexibility to add and move around members. Can there be a non voting.

Trey asked what the Council's priorities are and Hilary responded that she is presenting the 2020 CAP Annual Report to the Council the following day and recommended they join the meeting to hear Council questions and feedback.

Trey stated his interest in working with municipal facilities and that perhaps a good start to that is the no idling policy. Ricky responded by making a motion to create the no idling ad hoc subcommittee.

Action: Motion by Ricky Williams and seconded by Michael Bourton to proceed with the formation of the no idling ad hoc subcommittee comprised of Commissioners Ricky Williams, Trey McDonald, and Andrea Beth Damsky with the goal of drafting a no idling program and outreach campaign in partnership with the LMSVSD. The ad hoc subcommittee would end in September 2022, once the school year starts.

Vote: 5-0
Ayes: Bourton, McDonald, Damsky, Lonjaret, Williams
Noes: None
Abstained: None
Absent: Grooms

Hilary stated she will attend the two new ad hoc subcommittees and will reach out to the Commissioners to schedule them before the next Commission meeting.

9. MEMBER PARTICIPATION DISCUSSION

Hilary Ego stated there are two nonvoting positions open: Helix Charter High School and LMSVSD. In addition, the Youth Commissioner position is also vacant and Michael Bourton's term is expiring at the end of June.

Michael Bourton stated he has submitted his application.

Hilary Ego stated that the deadline to apply is July 2, 2021 and interviews will be held at the July 13, 2021 City Council meeting. Hilary also stated that since the City's website doesn't show the vacancies, she will follow up with application information.

Ricky Williams stated he would like to reach out to the Boards of Helix Charter High School and LMSVSD to present and ask them to nominate a representative to join the Commission. Ricky noted that it needs to be a staff member, not a student, and that their Board doesn't have to appoint one of their Board members and that it can be a staff member. Ricky proceeded with a motion to present to the two boards.

Action:	Motion by Ricky Williams and seconded by Trey McDonald to proceed reaching out to the Helix Charter High School and LMSVSD on behalf of the Environmental Sustainability Commission and ask them to nominate staff to join the Commission
Vote:	5-0
Ayes:	Bourton, McDonald, Damsky, Lonjaret, Williams
Noes:	None
Abstained:	None
Absent:	Grooms

10. Discussion of scheduling August meeting

Andrea Beth Damsky asked if there are any planned vacations for the Commissioners in July or August to ensure we will have a quorum. Commissioners stated they will be present.

Hilary Ego stated that the Commission meetings will continue to be virtual until further notice.

11. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Sebastian Sarria stated that on behalf of San Diego Community Power, they would like to offer to do a brief presentation at a future Commission meeting about SDCP's Phase 3 residential rollout, which will begin in 2022.

Trey McDonald asked the Chair and Vice Chair to invite Councilmembers to Commission meetings to have a discussion about their vision for the ESC and the work they are doing and how they can work together. Trey expressed his frustration that they've only heard from one Councilmember in the past and would like to hear from the others. Hilary Ego stated she will check on the process for this.

Jean-Guillaume Lonjaret asked for the updated roster.

Andrea Beth Damsky stated she is interested in learning about regional Climate Action Plans.

Rick stated that with his work with the County, he has been working with two low income communities and is doing a community mobility workshop for residents in the Spring Valley Area with the goal of identifying micromobility options and barriers.

12. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 19, 2021.

13. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7 :51 p.m.

Prepared by: Hilary Ego, Environmental Program Manager