

**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
September 30, 2020

1. CALL TO ORDER (6:05 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
Eugenie Budnik (Youth Rep)	X
Maggie Eggers (EDCO)	
Joe Garuba (Helix Water District)	X
Vacant (La Mesa-Spring Valley School District)	
Joe Britton (SDG&E)	X
Vacant (Helix Charter High School)	

Others present: Lyn Dedmon, Senior Management Analyst; Hilary Ego, Environmental Program Manager

Public present: Debbie Kinsinger, Kinsinger Environmental Consulting

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Debbie Kinsinger submitted a written public comment that was read under Item #7 on the agenda.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – August 17, 2020

Action: Motion to approve minutes by Mike Bourton; second by Ricky Williams
Vote: 6-0
Ayes: Damsky, Williams, McDonald, Lonjaret, Bourton, Budnik
Noes: None
Abstained:
Absent:

5. CITY STAFF UPDATES

Hilary Ego gave provided an update on the CaleVIP program that provides funding for property owners to install EV chargers in multi-tenant developments, commercial centers, and other private property spaces.

Andrea Beth Damsky asked how property owners would find out about this program. Hilary Ego provided information about the website and Lyn Dedmon commented that the City will assume an active role to advertise the program to La Mesa property owners.

Michael Bourton stated that there are a lot of grants for EV chargers in the region. Staff asked the committee to forward any grant information that they may learn about to staff for review and consideration to apply.

Hilary Ego provided an update about four (4) new EV chargers that will be installed at McArthur Park through the Power Your Drive program.

Hilary Ego provided an update about the DIY toolkit expansion and the additional funding the City secured from SDG&E through the Emerging Cities program to continue with the program. Eugenie Budnik asked what grade levels the teacher lesson plan could include. Hilary stated that the middle school and high school levels would be ideal.

Hilary Ego provided additional updates on the following :

- Municipal Energy Efficiency
- San Diego Community Power
- Organics Rollout with EDCO
- C&D Waste Diversion Program
- Urban Forestry Master Plan
- iCommute/SANDAG – CA Clean Air Day
- CAP
- Park Appreciation Day – October 24th

Lyn Dedmon gave an update on the Community Garden project in McArthur Park and an update on the two vacant commissioner seats (Helix Charter High School and La Mesa-Spring Valley School District. Mike Bourton asked how many school districts are in La Mesa. Lyn Dedmon stated that La Mesa has two school districts.

6. ZERO WASTE BRANDING FOLLOW-UP – SURVEY RESULTS

Hilary Ego presented the zero waste branding logos that were chosen via a commissioner survey.

7. SUSTAINABILITY VISION STATEMENT AND TARGETS FOR ACTION

Debbie Kinsinger provided a public comment on the City's Targets for Action.

The commission discussed in detail options for a Strategic Directions statement and Five Year Goals statement.

Ricky Williams made a motion to approve “Environmental Stewardship” as the eighth Strategic Direction in the Targets for Action.

Action: Motion by Ricky Williams; second by Mike Bourton
Vote: 6-0
Ayes: Damsky, Williams, McDonald, Lonjaret, Bourton, Budnik
Noes: None
Abstained:
Absent:

Trey McDonald made a motion to approve “Foster community health by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving environmental quality” as an adopted Five Year Goal in the Targets for Action.

Action: Motion by Trey McDonald; second by Ricky Williams
Vote: 5-1
Ayes: Damsky, Williams, McDonald, Bourton, Budnik

Noes: Lonjaret
Abstained:
Absent:

8. DISCUSSION OF ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION WORK PLAN

The commission discussed some viewpoints and concerns with the direction of the commission and its work plan.

Trey McDonald stated that it would be helpful to invite council members individually to commission meetings to hear from them to help guide and inform the commission. Jean-Guillaume Lonjaret stated his support for this action.

Lyn Dedmon stated that he would run this request by the City Manager and return to the commission with more information.

Andrea Beth Damsky asked that staff include the work plan on the next meeting agenda to discuss it and to introduce it to new commission members.

Mike Bourton stated that we could bring in the council members that are not up for reelection first and then invite any new ones after the election.

9. CAP SUBCOMMITTEE ITEM – SUBCOMMITTEE TO COMMISSION PROCESS AND STEPS

Ricky Williams stated that the CAP Subcommittee is actively working on building and developing their process for bringing ideas forward to the commission that could potentially be implemented by the City. Ricky stated that the commission should expect future agenda items to be brought forward from the CAP Subcommittee to discuss how they can be implemented further.

Trey McDonald stated that CAP Subcommittee members have worked hard on this and that they wanted to create a process to fully vet ideas before they bring them forward to the commission.

Andrea Beth Damsky stated that she is very grateful of the work that the CAP Subcommittee is doing.

10. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Andrea Beth Damsky stated that she was alerted to possibly evacuate due to the recent fires and that it gave her pause as to the realities of climate change and the importance of the work that needs to be done.

Mike Bourton stated that SDG&E did a great job minimizing the power outages during the fires.

Trey McDonald stated that tonight's meeting was very productive.

11. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 19, 2020.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Prepared by: Lyn Dedmon, Senior Management Analyst