



CITY OF MILPITAS

Energy and Environmental Sustainability Commission

MEETING MINUTES

6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 15, 2021

Meeting livestreamed can be viewed at:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CityofMilpitas>

YouTube: <https://www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov/youtube>

Web Streaming: <https://www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov/webstreaming>

CALL TO ORDER	Chair Sexton called the meetings to order at 6:00 p.m. Staff Marshall called the roll.
ROLL CALL	PRESENT: Commissioners Sexton, Salian, Kong, Lingle (joined at 6:12 p.m.); Alternate Commissioners Hogg; Councilmember Chua; Public Works Director Ndah; and staff members Grand and Marshall were also present. ABSENT: Commissioners Martinez, Shreve, Badesha; Alternate Commissioner Admana
PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE	Chair Sexton led the pledge of allegiance.
ALTERNATE SEATING	Alternate Commissioner Hogg was seated.
APPROVAL OF AGENDA	Motion to approve the agenda for December 15, 2021 as submitted Motion/Second: Kong/Salian Motion carried by a vote of AYES: 4 NOES: 0 Commissioner Lingle joined after this.
APPROVAL OF MINUTES	Motion to approve the minutes for November 17, 2021 Motion/Second: Salian/Kong Motion carried by a vote of AYES: 4 NOES: 0 Commissioner Lingle joined after this.
PUBLIC FORUM	No public comments.
ANNOUNCEMENTS	Councilmember Chua reported that the City Council last night approved the Parks Master Plan. Also, the City allocated \$300,000 of ARPA funds for workforce development programs. This includes \$20,000 for Rising Sun, a community-based organization that offers training for green jobs.
BUSINESS ITEMS	a. Potential Green Gardening Program Commissioners discussed a potential program to promote the benefits of green gardening practices (electric tools, less toxic/organic resources, etc.). Commissioners shared information about current programs available to residents and ideas on how to better promote them to the public. Chair Sexton mentioned that the County offers a Master Gardener program and a Compost education program. Online classes are available for residents to learn best practices.

Commissioners agreed they would like to make it easier to find green gardening information on the City's Sustainability page. In addition, Commissioners would like to find green gardeners that service Milpitas. Staff Marshall will reach out to the Santa Clara County Pollution Prevention Program (SCVURPPP) to see if the Green Gardener [list](#) can be improved to make it easy to search by service area.

Chair Sexton would like to increase green gardening outreach to residents at the annual compost pick-up event.

Mr. Mehta, a Milpitas resident, would like the Commission to look into reaching out to organizations that focus on sustainable agriculture education.

b. Potential Commission Events

Based on a request of Councilmember Chua, Silicon Valley Clean Energy has agreed to sponsor a Smart Energy Strip distribution and education effort to be coordinated by the Commission.

Chair Sexton, Vice Chair Kong, and Commissioner Lingle volunteered for this effort and would be able to work at Earth Day and other events to educate residents about the benefits of smart energy strips. Chair Sexton volunteered to train Commissioners on how to demonstrate the benefits of the energy strips.

Vice Chair Kong is interested in utilizing the Commission's \$1,000 budget to supplement the energy strip giveaways. Staff Marshall suggested to gauge the interest of the energy strips first before purchasing additional ones.

Commissioner Lingle would like to expand the energy efficiency outreach to include LED light bulbs and increase awareness of the Milpitas Library's DIY Energy & Water Savings toolkit. The toolkit includes energy and water-saving devices that residents can install at home. There is an opportunity for the City to increase outreach about these kits.

Staff will provide Commissioners with a list of upcoming events that would be applicable for energy efficiency outreach.

LIAISON REPORT

Staff Marshall announced the City Council approved Lawn Bust Milpitas, direct install lawn conversion pilot program through which Our City Forest will convert 20-25 homeowners' lawns to water-wise plants. Staff Marshall also mentioned that the solar panel and back up battery microgrid project as started construction at the Senior Center and Community Center as part of the Energy and Water Savings Project.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Sexton adjourned the meeting at 7 p.m.