



CITY OF MILPITAS

Energy and Environmental Sustainability Commission

MEETING MINUTES

6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 16, 2022

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 meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Staff Marshall called the roll.
ROLL CALL	PRESENT: Commissioners Martinez, Sexton, Salian, Lingle, Venkataramana; Councilmember Chua; Public Works Director Ndah; and staff members Grand and Marshall were also present. ABSENT: Alternate Commissioner Hogg
PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE	Chair Sexton led the pledge of allegiance.
APPROVAL OF AGENDA	Motion to approve the agenda for March 16, 2022 as submitted Motion/Second: Salian/Venkataramana Motion carried by a vote of AYES: 5 NOES: 0
APPROVAL OF MINUTES	Motion to approve the minutes for February 16, 2022 Motion/Second: Salian/Martinez Motion carried by a vote of AYES: 5 NOES: 0
PUBLIC FORUM	Felix, a Milpitas resident, asked about an update on the Climate Action Plan. The City's website says that a draft will be available in November. Staff Marshall responded that there will be a study session with the City Council in April, and a draft plan will be released in May. Staff will reach out to Felix to let him know when the draft is ready for review.
ANNOUNCEMENTS	Commissioner Venkataramana introduced himself to the Commission.
BUSINESS ITEMS	a. Silicon Valley Clean Energy Program Updates Commissioners received a presentation from SVCE representatives Don Bray, Director of Account Services and Community Relations, and Tony Eulo, Senior Manager of Public Sector Services. Commissioners asked clarifying questions. Commissioners are impressed with the variety of energy efficiency rebates, and incentives SVCE offers residents. Commissioners asked questions about program offerings and resident participation.

Commissioner Lingle explained that one barrier to adopting an electric water heater is if an older home's electrical panel has capacity limits. Commissioner Lingle asked if there is an estimate on where greenhouse gas (GHG) savings are coming from overtime. SVCE staff explained that many of the savings come from cleaner electricity and the adoption of electric vehicles (EVs) and fuel-efficient cars. Methane gas in buildings is a significant contributor to GHG in our community and the demand for gas is continuing to increase.

Commissioner Venkataramana asked about what programs SVCE offers for distributed solar and storage to help during power outages. SVCE offers incentives for battery storage and solar installations. Customers can also get \$1,000 off on an electrical panel upgrade.

Commissioner Lingle asked if SVCE has numbers on participation in all programs, especially the FutureFit EV multi-family program. SVCE staff responded that they had done 25 EV assessments to date. In addition, SVCE is working on offering new programs that provide additional incentives to help properties move forward with installing charging stations. SVCE is launching a new direct install program to reduce the burden on properties. There needs to be more demand from tenants to convince Property to deploy EV chargers.

Commissioner Venkataramana asked if SVCE is considering looking into exploring vehicle to grid connections. SVCE staff responded that there are a lot of near-term electrical and mechanical issues with this type of integration. It will take a year or two for this technology to be ready.

Commissioner Lingle asked about trends for bringing wind power to a micro-level. SVCE staff responded that for wind power to be cost-effective it needs to be very windy, and the turbines need to be large. California is not set up with these ideal conditions; there is more opportunity to deploy offshore wind along the coast.

b. Election of Vice Chair

Chair Sexton nominated Commissioner Lingle for Vice Chair. Commissioner Lingle accepted the nomination.

Motion to Approve Commissioner Lingle to serve as Vice Chair
Motion/Second: Sexton/Salian
Motion carried by a vote of AYES: 5 NOES: 0

c. Earth Day 2022 Planning (continued)

Staff provided an update on the Earth Day planning efforts underway. The Earth Day event on April 23rd will go from 10 AM to 1 PM, starting with a ceremony celebrating substantial completion of the Senior Center's solar + battery microgrid

system. The Resource Fair will include several City tables and partner organizations. The Commission will staff a table to demonstrate advanced smart power strips. Staff confirmed that there will be a power outlet that can be utilized. Commissioners discussed the proposed staffing schedule below.

10 AM - 11 AM: Commissioners Sexton, Venkataramana, Lingle

11 AM - 12 PM: Commissioners Sexton and Lingle

12 PM -1 PM: Commissioners Sexton and Lingle

Staff Marshall will send the Earth Day flyer to the Commission for them to share and help promote the event.

LIAISON REPORT

Councilmember Chua welcomed Commissioner Venkataramana to the team and congratulated Commissioner Lingle on becoming Vice Chair. Councilmember Chua announced she reserved a table for the Commission at the May 7th Senior Resource Fair and the ADU workshop on April 30th. Councilmember Chua also announced that the Council approved a \$60,000 grant for the sustainability education program. Councilmember Chua wants to provide green shirts for the Commissioners for Earth Day.

Staff Marshall announced that the April meeting will be in-person at City Hall. The City is also excited to kick off the Lawn Bust Milpitas program; the first lawn bust project will be completed this week.

Chair Sexton is working with Councilmember Chua and a film student on a video project that explains how to use an advanced smart power strip.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Sexton adjourned the meeting at 7:37 p.m.