



City of Medford
Medford Energy & Environment Committee
City Hall Room 205
Medford, MA
02155
781-393-2137
enviro@medford.org
www.medfordenergy.org



**Medford Energy & Environment Committee (MEEC) Agenda
October 3, 2022 @ 6:30 PM
Via Zoom Virtual Meeting Connection (connection information below)**

Office of Energy and Environment: Alicia Hunt

Committee Members: Luke McKneally, Bob Paine (chair), Gaston Fiore (future co-chair), Paul Taslimi (future co-chair), Barry Ingber, Laretta James (temporarily on a leave of absence until November 2022), Kathleen McKenna, Nicole Morell, John Rogers, Martha Ondras, Jessica Parks, and Benji Hiller.

Committee Attendance: Gaston Fiore (future co-chair), Bob Paine (chair), Barry Ingber, Benji Hiller, Martha Ondras, John Rogers, Jessica Parks,

Guests: Rosemary Loer (Tufts Energy Group), phansen, Lois Grossman, Sue Brown (TreesMedford)

Staff: Alicia Hunt, Lilly Worth, Laretta James

1. Administration 6:30-7:00
 - Greetings, roll call, and introductions of guests
 - Review of minutes from September 12, 2022 meeting - *minutes accepted*
 - Administrative updates from Alicia Hunt
 - City of Medford has hired a new Building Commissioner & has re-posted the Facilities Manager position in a re-worked format
 - There are many vacancies posted on the website, particularly legal positions
 - Mystic River Celebration on 9/24 - City hosted info about E&E committee and several other related projects including solid waste survey. Good feedback and engagement from participants.
 - City will table at Oktoberfest in Medford Square, Saturday 10/8 (from 1-5pm) & could use extra help
 - Introduction to new Tufts Energy Group president and plans for webinar on November 16 with BlocPower
 - Energy conference will happen in March
2. Final plans for the 10/15/2022 Harvest Your Energy Festival – Alicia/Laretta 7:00-7:30
 - **Saturday, 10/15 - show up at 10am if you are helping**
 - Laretta is looking into table rental and looking for potential vendors
 - Theresa and Margot in the Planning office are working on social media

- Planned attendance: 40 Exhibitors, 13 sponsors. There will be food - a food truck and a coffee cart.
- Full info including raffle items listed on HYEYF website.
- Free COVID test kits will be handed out
- Clothing recycling info, paper shredding, electronics recycling
- Electronics Recycling specifics: Most electronics are free. No "large items" ie dishwashers - these can be picked up in a separate process. We have the option of collecting TVs and Monitors for \$15/ea - we would need a volunteer to manage the payment - Jessica offers to do this. Advertise \$15 cash only, but have a little change ready just in case.
 - Would the vendor do multiple trips?
 - Batteries (including alkaline) will be taken
- **Action item:** Lauretta needs help receiving the Wegman's order - needs to be someone strong. Get in touch with her.
- Alicia will organize someone from the Planning office to compile consumer-facing green energy info (ie electric cars, heat pumps)
- Committee has many posters, info resources from other festivals that they can bring
- McGlynn school has folding chairs they can lend us - Alicia will follow up

3. Solid Waste Contract and environmental issues (Gaston /Paul/ Alicia) 7:30-7:50

- City has been doing a solid waste survey and has decided to keep it open longer to reach more people. 650+ responses so far.
- City is exploring other items besides residential waste collection that might be reallocated under the purview of a new solid waste contract (for example, collection of public trash bins which is currently done by DPW)
- May extend current contract by 1 year to give more time
- Timeline: RFP will ideally be out Jan-Feb-March, review proposals in spring. Choose contract by summer but have 1 year before the new contract starts to give time for prep.
- Discussion of what to do for improper disposal of items - auditing? Increased educational materials? Incentive programs?
- Innovation clause in contract - City hopes to include mechanisms to enable innovation and change from within the new contract as time goes on

4. Status of Medford Tree Ordinance update (Nicole/Lauretta/Alicia) 7:50-8:30

- It was discussed at the Committee of the Whole meeting and the council voted to break this into 3 ordinances and refer to committee to discuss further
- It will also be reviewed by city depts to assess capacity for implementation and enforcement
- Need to investigate potential conflicts with Mass general laws
- Barry makes a motion that *"MEEC reaffirm its general support of the Tree Ordinance in as strong a form as possible, and including both public and private trees."*
- Gaston proposes that we ensure that the ordinance(s) makes a distinction between non-occupants of properties vs occupants and further examine additional details, exceptions etc
- Bob moves to amend Barry's motion: *"The Medford Energy and Environment Committee recommends enactment of a Tree Ordinance to protect the urban tree canopy in the city. The draft Medford Tree Ordinance should be revised from its current form to be more consistent with ordinances in effect in adjacent cities (Boston, Somerville, and Cambridge) in its treatment of tree removals for current residents' primary home in Medford."*
- Sue Brown from TreesMedford comments on the detail and research put into the draft ordinance
- Bob withdraws amendment and committee votes on Barry's original. Motion passes with a majority.

5. Adjourn

8:30

Community Development is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting. Topic: Energy and Environment Commission Meeting
Time: October 3, 2022 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/96291215902>

Meeting ID: 962 9121 5902

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Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/aVXjXTo94>

Anyone wishing to send comments or questions to the meeting can send email to enviro@medford-ma.gov

The meeting recording will be available on the committee website within a few days: <https://medfordenergy.org/gogreen/medford-energy-committee/>

On July 16, 2022, Governor Baker signed into law An Act Relative to Extending Certain State of Emergency Accommodations. This Act allows public bodies to continue holding meetings remotely through March 31, 2023 without a quorum of the public body physically present at a meeting location, and to provide "adequate, alternative" access to remote meetings.

In accordance with this Act, this meeting of the City of Medford Energy & Environment Committee is being conducted totally via remote participation using Zoom, including committee members and the public. The use of Zoom complies with the law's requirement to provide live "adequate, alternative means" of public access to the deliberations of the public body, instead of holding meetings in a public place. Persons who would like to listen to or view this meeting while in progress may do so by using the link that was included on the meeting agenda posted on the City of Medford website. We will also post a record of this meeting on the city's website in the near future at the link provided in the meeting agenda.