

**MINUTES
MONTEREY PARK ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 12, 2021**

The Environmental Commission of the City of Monterey Park held a regular Teleconference Meeting via Zoom on Tuesday, January 12, 2021 at 6:30 P.M. The regular meeting was conducted pursuant to Section 3 of Executive Order No. N-29-20 issued on March 17, 2020. Accordingly, Commissioners/Board Members were provided a meeting login number and conference call number and were not physically present at the City Hall Engineering Conference Room.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

In accordance with Executive Order No. N-29-20 and guidance from the California Department of Public Health on gatherings, remote public participation was allowed in the following ways:

Via Email

Public comments were accepted up to 24 hours before the meeting via email to btam@montereypark.ca.gov and, when feasible, read into the record during public comment. Written communications are limited to not more than 50 words.

Via Telephone

Public comment may be submitted via telephone during the meeting, before the close of public comment, by calling (888) 788-0099 or (877) 853-5247 and entering Zoom Meeting ID: 926 5956 3102 then press pound (#). When prompted to enter participation ID number press pound (#) again. If participants would like to make a public comment they will enter “*9” then the host from Department of Public Works will be notified and you will be in the rotation to make a public comment. Participants are encouraged to join the meeting 15 minutes before the start of the meeting. You may speak up to 5 minutes on Agenda item. Speakers will not be allowed to combine time. The Chair and Commissioner/Board Members may change the amount of time allowed for speakers. As part of the virtual meeting protocols, anonymous persons will not be allowed to provide public comment.

Important Disclaimer – When a participant calls in to join the meeting, their name and/or phone number will be visible to all participants. Note that all public meetings will be recorded.

CALL TO ORDER:

Principal Management Analyst Tam called the meeting to order at 6:38 P.M.

FLAG SALUTE:

Chair Wong led the flag salute.

ROLL CALL: Karl Wong, Shirley Hwong, and Kathy Ko

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the City of Monterey Park is to provide excellent services to enhance the quality of life for our entire community

ALSO PRESENT: Principal Management Analyst Bonnie Tam, Principal Management Analyst Amy Ho, and Asian Pacific Islander Forward Movement (APIFM) Policy Coordinator Jeshow Yang

AGENDA ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, CHANGES AND ADOPTIONS – None.

ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

1. PRESENTATION

None.

2. CITY OF MONTEREYO PARK – CONSENT CALENDAR

None.

3. OLD BUSINESS

3-A. MONTEREYO PARK CLIMATE ACTION PLAN REVIEW

Chair Wong summarized topics covered in the Climate Action Plan (CAP) that was published by the City in 2012. The CAP is to set forth a comprehensive strategy to address greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions related to land use, transportation, building design, energy use, water demand, and waste generation. The CAP can be viewed and downloaded from the City's website at: <http://www.montereypark.ca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/581/Climate-Action-Plan?bidId=>

The Commission continued to discuss how the Environmental Commission can get involved to assist and make recommendations for the City in updating the existing CAP. The Commission also discussed methods in obtaining data needed to generate updates to current CAP. Chair Wong and Commissioner Ko stated that they have read the CAP partially and that it is highly complex and technical; therefore, the Commission recommended four approaches / steps to update the CAP as follows:

1. Need Experts in the Field: This includes hiring a consultant in the field or nonprofit organization, such as APIFM, that has the measuring tools to gather data. APIFM Policy Coordinator Yang was present and stated that, with the measuring tools, it is estimated to cost the City \$150,000 to have city staff measuring, gathering, and evaluating the data, and compiling the CAP.
2. Reach Out to Consultant That Drafted the 2012 CAP: The Commission suggested that staff reaches out to consulting firm AECOM that drafted the 2012 CAP for feedback and recommendations.
3. Apply for Grants: APIFM Policy Coordinator Yang mentioned that there are a few grants that city staff can apply but deadlines are fast approaching. APIFM Policy Coordinator Yang mentioned that there is a Caltrans grant that has a deadline in February 2021.

4. Obtain Information from External Agency: Chair Wong stated that he will reach out to California Air Resources Board (CARBS) for some information.

Principal Management Analyst Tam stated that these recommendations will be reported back to Interim Director of Public Works Frank Lopez and staff will provide the Commission with updates at next regular meeting. The Commission unanimously approved, and this item is continued to next regular meeting.

3-B. MONTEREY PARK EARTH DAY 2021 PLAN

The Commission continued to discuss plans for 2021 Earth Day. Chair Wong proposed four options to celebrate Earth Day:

1. Collaborate with Bruggemeyer Library: Commissioner Ko stated that she left a voice message to City Librarian Diana Garcia and will follow up with her on a possible collaborative effort.
2. Collaborate with Mark Keppel High School for a Virtual Celebration: This was discussed at last regular meeting and was assigned to Youth Advisor Huang who was absent tonight to provide status updates.
3. Commission Conducts a Virtual Presentation: The Commission to celebrate Earth Day virtually with residents by pre-recording messages and providing a link for the public to view on the City's YouTube channel.
4. Tree Planting: The Commission stated that it should be considered for next year's Earth Day festival instead.

Principal Management Analyst Tam suggested that the Commission can possibly utilize the City's various social media platforms to advertise the virtual Earth Day celebration with the assistance from city staff.

4. NEW BUSINESS

4-A. ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MINUTES

Approve the minutes from the regular meeting of November 10, 2020.

Action Taken: The Environmental Commission approved the minutes from the regular meeting of November 10, 2020.

Motion: Moved by Commissioner Ko and seconded by Co-Chair Hwong motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioner: Karl Wong, Shirley Hwong, Kathy Ko
Noes: Commissioner: None
Absent: Commissioner: Alice Chan
Abstain: Commissioner: None

4-B. CITY UPDATES ON CLEAN POWER ALLIANCE

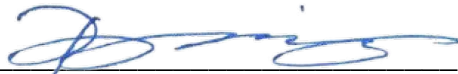
Principal Management Tam provided status update and stated that City management can look into this program but may not be the right time during this year to implement the program. The Commission agreed that the Climate Action Plan should be reviewed first before considering implementation of this program.

5. COMMISSION COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMISSIONER AND AGENCY MATTERS

Commissioner Ko mentioned that Ms. Laura Gallegos applied for the vacant Commissioner seat.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business for consideration, the meeting was adjourned at 8:31 P.M.



Bonnie Tam
Principal Management Analyst
Staff Liaison to the Environmental Commission
City of Monterey Park

Approved on February 9, 2021 at the regular meeting