

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 2, 2023 @ 6:30 PM
Via Zoom Virtual Meeting Connection (connection information below)

Office of Community Development / Energy and Environment: Alicia Hunt, Director

Committee Members: Laretta James, Kathleen McKenna, Luke McKneally, Barry Ingber, John Rogers, Jessica Parks, Benji Hiller, Bob Paine (acting chair), Paul Taslimi, Martha Ondras, Dan Pappo, Lois Grossman, Sara Singh, Will Sherwood

Municipal Staff and Interns: Alicia Hunt, intern Rachel Vresilovic, Brenda Pike (climate policy planner)

1. Administration 6:30-7:00
 - Greetings, roll call, and introduction of guests
 - Review of minutes from September 11, 2023 meeting
 - Administrative updates from municipal staff
 - Tufts Energy Group, if present, can introduce their members in attendance and provide a short update regarding their activities.
2. Preparations and final plans for Harvest Your Energy Festival on October 14 (Laretta and Rachel). 7:00-7:30
3. Further updates on initiatives involving climate policy for Medford (Brenda). 7:30-8:10

This will include a proposal for a MassCEC grant for "Electrify Medford."
4. Miscellaneous items: 8:10-8:30
 - a) webinar by Mystic River Watershed Association on flooding potential within the watershed on November 1;
 - b) Medford invasive plant FaceBook group introduction (Alex Hunter, if available on Zoom).
5. Adjourn 8:30

For **accommodations**, please call in advance: 781-393-2137 or TTY: 781-393-2516

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Community Development is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Energy and Environment Commission Meeting

Time: October 2, 2023 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

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

Meeting ID: 962 9121 5902

One tap mobile

+19292056099,,96291215902# US (New York)

Dial by your location

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 962 9121 5902

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/aVXiXTo94>

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 March 29, 2023, Governor Healey signed into law a supplemental budget bill which, among other things, extends the temporary provisions pertaining to the Open Meeting Law to March 31, 2025. Specifically, this further extension allows public bodies to continue holding meetings remotely without a quorum of the public body physically present at a meeting location, and to provide "adequate, alternative" access to remote meetings. The language does not make any substantive changes to the Open Meeting Law other than extending the expiration date of the temporary provisions regarding remote meetings from March 31, 2023 to March 31, 2025.

In accordance with this law, 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.

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Medford Energy and Environment Committee Members



Luke McKneally: registered architect with in-depth experience in energy-efficient, environmentally responsive design and the use of renewable energy in buildings. He is an Energy Engineer at ICF, implementing MassSave Passive House incentives for multifamily development in Massachusetts to encourage best practices and the highest performance possible with minimal project cost implications.



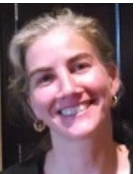
Bob Paine (acting chair): Certified Consulting Meteorologist and Qualified Environmental Professional. Experience in meteorology and air pollution studies and consulting. Associate Vice President at AECOM, a company that focuses on areas of air quality consulting, engineering, and compliance, climate adaptation, and PFAS mitigation. Bob has been a member of this committee and legacy municipal committees (e.g., wind turbine committee) since 2004.



Barry Ingber: has spent most of the past four decades with non-profit organizations that serve low-income communities and work for a more sustainable and affordable energy future. Most recently, he managed energy programs for Tri-City Community Action Program. Previously, as Executive Director of MassEnergy, he founded the state's first and largest green power program, and the nation's first non-profit renewable energy coop.



Laurretta James: is a real estate agent and Realtor®. She works within the Committee to design and promote energy, sustainability, and environmental programs and events to educate and benefit residents and businesses. Her background includes working in the elevator industry, event organizing, and art and design. She was previously President of the Massachusetts Elevator Safety Association.



Kathleen McKenna: environmental engineer at Commercial Construction Consulting, Inc. (C3), which deals with LEED and sustainability consulting, energy audits, and implementation. She is secretary of the New England Chapter of The Association of Energy Engineers. Kathleen served in the role of community solar coach for the very successful 2013 Solarize Mass Program, when she coordinated the community outreach process, answered questions from residents and businesses, and was the main point of contact for community members.



John Rogers: extensive background in energy conversion (motors, batteries, chargers, power grid, electric vehicles). With Solectria, he worked on the electrical system for the "Solectria Sunrise" EV and on their Grid Tied Solar Inverters. With Azure Dynamics, he worked on a Ford E250 Electric Van Prototype and on the onboard charging system for Ford's Transit Connect Electric. He now works for Instrumentation Laboratory - Bedford, MA.



Martha Ondras: with a Master's degree in environmental health at Tufts, she is a research associate at the Health Effects Institute (HEI) in Boston, working on air quality research. HEI provides high quality, trusted science for cleaner air and better health. Prior to pursuing a second career in environmental health, she retired from the post of Director of Design at Harvard Business School.



Jessica Parks: with a background in sustainable design and urban planning, she has experience in developing greenhouse gas reduction plans, driving energy efficiency projects,

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and establishing energy reporting protocols. She is currently a Senior Project Manager at MIT for projects under the campus-wide Greenhouse Gas (GHG) program. Jessica hopes to utilize her experience and expertise to help create opportunities for community engagement and education in support of a more sustainable and resilient Medford.



Benjamin (“Benjie”) Hiller: is a now retired lawyer. He has a Masters degree in biology/ecology. He spent most of his career engaged in toxic tort litigation, specializing in representing children harmed by lead poisoning. Back in the 1970s and 1980s, he was part of the Clamshell Alliance which fought to prevent the construction of the Seabrook Nuclear Power Plant and which brought the dangers of nuclear power to the attention of the world.



Paul Taslimi: Senior scientist at Merck Research Laboratories Boston. Paul has been an active scientist for 40 years. Paul has a BSc and MSc degrees in Chemistry and Biochemistry respectively from Canada. Paul has a deep interest in mitigating the climate crisis through science education and raising awareness at the local level and hopes that his years of experience in science can be beneficial to the Medford community in addressing the climate crisis.



Lois Grossman: became a Medford resident in 1982. Her interest in the environment led her to many good opportunities to serve the community with like-minded colleagues. She served on the Trash and Recycling Commission and the Medford Wind Turbine committee. She was an active member of the Brooks Estate Preservation Association, and most recently served on the Medford Solid Waste Task Force. Lois taught Spanish at Tufts for many years and is now a freelance Spanish editor.



Dan Pappo: has an extensive background in energy markets, with an emphasis on renewable energy and battery storage optimization and operations in wholesale markets. He previously managed the short-term trading desk in North America for one of the largest renewable developers in the world, and is currently focused on grid level battery storage for Equilibrium Energy. Dan has a deep-seated interest in discovering high-impact initiatives at the local level to help mitigate climate change and accelerate the energy transition, while maintaining the wonderful natural spaces in Medford for future generations.



Sara Singh: is a wilderness and wildlife conservation professional. She has an MS in Environmental Policy & Planning from Tufts and an MA in Law and Diplomacy from The Fletcher School. She has conducted research on PFAS contamination in the US (for Onvector), climate policy progress in New England (for Synapse Energy Economics), conservation monitoring technologies, and local riverine issues. She also recently consulted for an emerging NGO (Nawi) that aims to rewild degraded areas in the Peruvian Amazon.



Will Sherwood:

Medford Energy and Environment Committee: Municipal Staff



Alicia Hunt: Director of Planning, Development and Sustainability. Alicia started working with

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the city in 2010 as the Energy Efficiency Coordinator and has managed extensive energy efficiency and renewable energy projects for the City's buildings. She facilitated the City's Green Communities designation and works to bring in energy and environment related grants and programs to the City of Medford. Alicia is a Medford resident who brings her green knowledge to other Medford organizations in her spare time.

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