



## SUSTAINABLE ENERGY COMMITTEE

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Sustainable Energy Director: Marybeth Martello

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Laura Olton, Chair

Susan Morris, Vice Chair

Cindy Mahr

Ellen Korpi

Fred Bungler

Lise Olney

Martha Collins

### SEC Monthly Meeting

Remote Zoom Meeting

January 8, 2021

#### Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m. by Laura Olton. Present were Sustainable Energy Committee (SEC) members: Laura Olton (SEC Chair), Sue Morris (SEC Vice Chair), Lise Olney, Fred Bungler, Ellen Korpi, and Martha Collins. Also present were Marybeth Martello (Sustainable Energy Director), Janet Mosley (SEC Analyst), Deed McCollum, Pamela Posey, Roopa Chandrasekaran, Lara Pfadt, Ellen Watts, Mary Gard. Absent: Cindy Mahr.

**Citizens' Speak** - None

#### **Minutes**

Approval of minutes from the three meetings in December were tabled until the February meeting.

#### **Proposed Zoning Bylaw Amendments for Annual Town Meeting 2021**

Marybeth shared a summary of her meeting with Don McCauley and Valerie Oorthuys of the Planning Department. They were supportive of the most recent version of edits to the proposed sustainability-related zoning bylaw amendments, and also expressed interest in helping the SEC share the sustainable building goals as outlined in the Municipal Sustainable Building Guidelines with developers.

Laura and Marybeth provided a summary of their meeting with Meghan Jop regarding the proposed sustainability-related bylaw amendments. Meghan Jop supported the concept but also raised a number of questions and concerns regarding how the sustainable building objectives were currently proposed in the Project of Significant Impact (PSI) and Design Review sections of the Town's zoning bylaws. She made several initial suggestions to best achieve the desired sustainability outcomes.

After further discussion, SEC members agreed that the next step should be a meeting with Meghan Jop, Don McCauley, Laura, Marybeth, and members of the Rocky Mountain Institute Building Electrification Accelerator team who have been working on the draft edits to the zoning bylaws.

### **Climate Action Plan**

Marybeth presented a draft Climate Action Plan (CAP) process and timeline. Marybeth proposed a setting up working groups in six sectors that will identify and prioritize actions. A consultant will provide quantitative support to help the working groups evaluate the environmental and economic impact of potential actions. Outreach to Town boards and committees would happen in the next few months in order to get department participation on the working groups. Marybeth proposed outreach to the community through a Green Collaborative meeting in the spring and a large number of focus group meetings throughout the spring, summer, and fall. SEC member feedback included concern about coordinating across the 6 working groups and SEC staff and member ability to carry out the proposed community outreach.

Martha Collins presented a revised version of the CAP two-page outreach document. The CAP two-pager will be used to introduce the CAP in meetings, in newsletters, on the website, and social media. Marybeth requested any feedback be sent to her directly.

### **Massachusetts Executive and Legislative Branch Climate Policy and SEC Warrant Articles for Annual Town Meeting 2021**

Recently, the State Legislature passed a climate change bill outlining greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction goals of 50% reduction from 1990 levels by 2030 and net-zero by 2050. Governor Baker's administration also recently published its Massachusetts 2050 Decarbonization Roadmap and Interim Clean Energy and Climate Plan for 2030, with a goal of 45% reduction from 1990 levels by 2030 and net-zero by 2050. The SEC discussed how this action at the state level impacted its thinking on interim GHG reduction goals to include in the SEC's warrant articles for 2021 Annual Town Meeting. Janet noted that the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) recommended 45% reduction from 2010 levels to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius. Using the Town's current GHG inventory results and baseline year, Wellesley would need to reduce its GHG emissions 50% from 2007 levels by 2030 in order to align with the IPCC's recommendation. Fred Bunger moved that the SEC propose to Annual Town Meeting interim GHG reduction goals of 50% by 2030 and 75% by 2040, both in comparison to Wellesley's 2007 baseline. Sue Morris seconded the motion *and the Committee voted to approve the GHG interim reduction goals to be voted on at Annual Town Meeting 2021.*

Laura tabled discussion on increasing the number of SEC members from seven to nine and changing the name of the SEC until the next meeting. Catherine Johnson, Planning Board Chair, was supportive of the idea of having someone represent the Planning Board and Planning Department as a member of the SEC. However, Planning board members and staff do not currently have time to fully participate on the SEC. Laura is waiting on further feedback from Planning.

### **Questions Regarding Project Updates - None**

### **Additional Business**

Fred Bunger is planning to send a letter to the International Code Council (ICC) to encourage them to continue to allow members of local governments to vote on proposed updates to the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC).

### **Adjourn**

Martha Collins motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:26 a.m., seconded by Fred Bunger, *and the Committee voted to adjourn.*

**Exhibits Used:** ATM 2021 Planning Articles, CAP Working Groups, CAP 2-Page Draft, MA Decarbonization Roadmap and Bill S. 2995, ATM 2021 Proposed SEC Article Language, SEC Article 12 Revised Draft, Project Updates