



SUSTAINABLE ENERGY COMMITTEE

TOWN HALL • 525 WASHINGTON STREET • WELLESLEY, MA 02482-5992

Sustainable Energy Director: Marybeth Martello

SEC@wellesleyma.gov

SEC Assistant: Janet Mosley

jmosley@wellesleyma.gov

Laura Olton, Chair
Fred Bunger, Vice Chair
Cindy Mahr
Ellen Korpi
Richard Lee
Susan Morris
Lise Olney

SEC Monthly Meeting

Kingsbury Room

Wellesley Police Station

485 Washington Street

Wellesley, MA 02482

February 14, 2020

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 8:33 am by Laura Olton. Present were Sustainable Energy Committee (SEC) members: Laura Olton (SEC Chair), Fred Bunger (SEC Vice Chair), Lise Olney, Cindy Mahr, Richard Lee and Susan Morris. Also present were Marybeth Martello (Sustainable Energy Director), Deed McCollum (Advisory Committee Liaison), Pamela Posey, Scott Bender, Jim Gorman, Paul Criswell (Municipal Light Board) and Phyllis Theermann.

Absent: Ellen Korpi

Citizen Speak - None

Minutes

Fred Bunger moved to approve the SEC's January 29 meeting minutes. Laura Olton seconded the motion *and the Committee voted unanimously to accept the January 29 meeting minutes.*

Fred Bunger moved to approve the SEC's January 29 Municipal Sustainable Building Guideline public hearing minutes. Lise Olney seconded *and the Committee voted unanimously to accept the public hearing minutes.* Cindy Mahr abstained because she was not present at the public hearing.

Project Updates

Lise Olney asked about discussions among Don Newell (Wellesley Municipal Light Plant (WMLP) Director), Marybeth Martello, Janet Mosley, Scott Bender and Energy New England (ENE) regarding ENE's WMLP Portfolio Emissions Evaluation and about methodologies for calculating a WMLP-specific emissions factor. Marybeth explained that the above discussions focused on data and methods for estimating emissions from what ENE calls "WMLP's open position to the wholesale market." The Committee discussed SEC's exploration of a possible WMLP-specific factor last year and the potential for using such a factor in the future.

Discussion of Citizen's Petition on the Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Goal

Jim Gorman provided the SEC with a draft motion for Annual Town Meeting (ATM) 2020 requesting ATM to express its support for the WMLP to enroll all town electricity customers in an opt-out Voluntary Renewable Energy Program (VREP). The Citizen's Petition (CP) group requested that the SEC endorse the CP and motion.

Laura Olton voiced appreciation for the time the CP group has spent in developing and revising the motion. SEC members expressed their support for the CP. Cindy Mahr requested that the CP group remove reference to electric school buses. Jim Gorman agreed to remove these references. Richard Lee voiced support for the CP and noted that if ATM fails to approve the CP, it may be difficult for the WMLP to implement the opt-out VREP.

Lise Olney made a motion to authorize Laura Olton to work with Ellen Korpi and Marybeth Martello to formulate a position statement on the opt-out VREP Citizen's Petition. Fred Bunger seconded and *the Committee voted unanimously to authorize Laura Olton to work with Ellen Korpi and Marybeth Martello to formulate a position statement on the opt-out VREP Citizen's Petition.*

Green Communities Project Proposals for the 2020 Grant Round

Marybeth Martello described the following projects in Wellesley's Green Communities 2020 Competitive Grant Round: a municipal parking lot light-emitting diode (LED) retrofit, an LED retrofit at Wellesley High School, hybrid and electric vehicles purchases for the municipal fleet and (potentially) publicly accessible charging stations. The SEC recommended considering new charging stations at the Library, Warren Building and Cameron Street Parking Lot.

Funding for Wellesley Middle School Composting Pilot

Funding for the Wellesley Middle School composting pilot did not require SEC discussion. Cindy Mahr noted that there is a lack of cohesion and communication on this project and that she will connect with Mark Ito and Matt Delaney to ensure a clear plan forward.

Setback Bylaws and Energy Improvements

A resident at the last Green Collaborative meeting mentioned the rigid setback requirements that make it difficult and expensive for residents to pursue home energy improvements, such as air source heat pump installation. The Committee agreed that the SEC should talk with Planning about revising relevant bylaws at Annual Town Meeting 2021

Climate Action Plan

The Committee discussed preparations for the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Program's grant application, for which an announcement is expected in late April.

SEC Logo

The Committee agreed that an SEC logo is not needed.

Sue Morris made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:22 am, seconded by Fred Bunger, *and the Committee voted unanimously to adjourn.*

Exhibits Used

Minutes for January 29 meeting and public hearing

Project Updates

Citizen's Petition on the Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Goal

Email from Fred Bunger regarding zoning barriers to energy improvements

Draft SEC logo image