



SUSTAINABLE ENERGY COMMITTEE

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SEC Administrator: Marybeth Martello

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Laura Olton, Chair

Ellen Korpi, Vice Chair

Fred Bungler

Michael D'Ortenzio, Jr.

Rob Lamppa

Thomas Ulfelder

Monthly Meeting

Kingsley Board Room

4 Municipal Way

Wellesley, MA 02481

March 1, 2019

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 8:35 am by Laura Olton. Present were Sustainable Energy Committee (SEC) members: Laura Olton (SEC Chair), Ellen Korpi (SEC Vice Chair), Fred Bungler, Tom Ulfelder, and Michael D'Ortenzio, Jr. Also present were: Marybeth Martello (SEC Administrator), Janet Mosley (SEC Assistant), Leanne Cowley, and Trish Glass.

Absent: Rob Lamppa

Citizen Speak – None

Minutes – Laura Olton moved to approve the minutes from the SEC's January 30 meeting. Michael D'Ortenzio, Jr. seconded and the Committee *voted unanimously to accept the January 30, 2019 minutes.*

Green Communities

A Wellesley Municipal Light Plant (WMLP) flood light project (approx. \$18,000) and a potential lighting project (approximately \$15,000-\$20,000) from the Department of Public Works are good candidates for the \$61,000 of remaining Green Communities Designation Fund grant support. The Committee discussed other projects such as electric vehicles (EVs), EV charging stations, and an occupant behavior study. Using Green Community grant funds can be challenging for departments because of the December deadline and other logistics. The SEC will talk with departments about how to make grant use easier.

The Committee discussed municipal energy tracking and interactions with the Facilities Management Department (FMD) that could best support energy management and progress toward our Green Communities goal to reduce municipal energy use 20% by 2021.

Quentin Prideaux will carry out a greenhouse gas inventory of Wellesley High School as part of a project for a Harvard Extension School course.

ATM report

Marybeth Martello summarized the greenhouse gas emission results in the SEC's report to 2019 Annual Town Meeting. Leanne Cowley suggested that the SEC consider other ways of presenting emission results, e.g., along the lines of scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions where the easier-to-estimate building would show up differently than the more elusive transportation emissions. Fred Burger suggested that future work on emissions consider gas leaks and carbon sequestration through, for example the tree canopy. Tom Ulfelder noted the importance of tree canopy maintenance.

SEC Membership

The Committee discussed a draft announcement for the SEC seat that Ellen Korpi will vacate when she joins the Board of Public Works. The Committee will send edits on the draft "job posting" to Marybeth.

Solar Program

The residential solar campaign is imminent. Laura Olton Stephanie Hawkinson and Marybeth Martello are working with the Wellesley Municipal Light Plant (WMLP) on program promotion. There is funding for approximately thirty homes.

Sustainable Building Guidelines

Fred Burger summarized the latest work on Sustainable Building Guidelines (SBG). He recommended that the SBG document reference methods/programs such as Passive House, WELL, and Living Building Challenge. Marybeth and Fred will meet with Steve Gagosian next week.

GHG Emissions Reduction Plan

In March, Janet and Marybeth will explore facets of a greenhouse gas (GHG) Emissions Reduction Plan and share more in-depth info at the April SEC meeting. They will examine the following:

- Is there a compelling rationale for a formal GHG mitigation plan? Will it help us identify and achieve goals that are currently elusive/unrecognized? Is there evidence from other communities that these plans are useful?

- What does a typical GHG reduction plan involve? We know we need community engagement, data analysis, modeling, program planning, but want to have a better understanding of what this really involves.
- What role do consultants typically play and do we have the in-house resources to cover this role?
- Now is the time to think critically about our overall methodology for measuring emissions. Do we want, for example, to switch to a consumption-based emissions inventory (like we believe Somerville is using)? Thinking about a GHG emissions reduction plan goes hand-in-hand with thinking about how we plan to approach the inventory in the future, our emission goal, etc.
- Identify decisions the SEC should make before embarking on a GHG emissions reduction plan.

Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness

The SEC could be a catalyst for encouraging Wellesley to participate in the Department of Energy Resource's Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Program. Funding and technical assistance is available for planning and implementing vulnerability preparedness measures. Marybeth will look further into the details and reach out to relevant departments across Town.

Laura made a motion to adjourn at 10:25 am, seconded by Ellen, *and the Committee voted unanimously to adjourn.*

Exhibits Used

- SEC Report to 2019 Annual Town Meeting
- Draft "job posting" for soon-to-be open SEC seat