



SUSTAINABLE ENERGY COMMITTEE

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

Sustainable Energy Director: Marybeth Martello

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SEC Assistant: Janet Mosley

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Laura Olton, Chair

Fred Bunger, Vice Chair

Cindy Mahr

Ellen Korpi

Richard Lee

Susan Morris

Lise Olney

SEC Monthly Meeting

Remote Zoom Meeting

April 3, 2020

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 8:34 am by Laura Olton. Present were Sustainable Energy Committee (SEC) members: Laura Olton (SEC Chair), Fred Bunger (SEC Vice Chair), Lise Olney, Ellen Korpi, Richard Lee and Susan Morris. Also present were Marybeth Martello (Sustainable Energy Director), Janet Mosley (SEC Assistant), Don Newell (Municipal Light Plant Director), Pamela Posey and Judson Jaffe

Absent: Cindy Mahr

Citizen Speak - None

Minutes

Fred Bunger moved to approve the SEC's March 6 meeting minutes. Ellen Korpi seconded the motion *and the Committee voted unanimously to approve the March 6 meeting minutes.*

Project Updates

Lise Olney commented on COVID-19's impact on Wellesley and encouraged everyone to sign up for daily updates on the Town website.

Fred Bunger noted recent and planned meetings to discuss solar installations on municipal buildings. The group stressed the importance of departmental collaboration on municipal solar. Laura Olton and Don Newell will discuss power purchase agreements.

Richard Lee will check with Lynn Ahlgren from the Liveable Streets Alliance, about grant opportunities.

Sue Morris noted the cancellation of last week's 3R Working Group meeting and May 5's Green Collaborative. Ellen and Sue will discuss whether a webinar should take the place of the May 5 meeting. Perhaps a webinar could focus on issues associated with staying home/social distancing. Increased residential food waste generation could be a topic. Next year's Green Collaborative meetings could

focus on green electrification and on air source heat pumps and water heaters. Ellen noted that a new staff member starting at the Municipal Light Plant (MLP) this summer could help to direct the Town's focus on clean heating.

Green Communities Grants

Wellesley submitted its Green Communities Competitive Grant application on March 27, requesting approximately \$138,000 for municipal parking lot lighting, High School gymnasium and auditorium lighting and two Police Department hybrid cruisers. Wellesley should start preparing to seek maximum grant funding for innovative, forward-thinking projects in 2021. It is important to encourage departmental interest in grant funding and the development of Green Communities project proposals should engage the Board of Selectmen and other boards, as well as department staff. Lise noted that adoption of Article 26 and work on the Climate Action and Resiliency Plan will foster board and departmental interest and participation in the Green Communities program.

Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Grant Opportunity

Wellesley will apply for Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Program funding for a Climate Action and Resiliency Plan (CARP). The SEC will lead the mitigation part of the CARP, the NRC has agreed to coordinate the resiliency piece of this effort and Meghan Jop is highly supportive and intends to help engage just about every department. Marybeth participated in an MVP webinar yesterday. The State will announce grant awards in late April, with a deadline six weeks later. Awards will be made in August/September, with a project completion date of June 30, 2021. \$10 million of grant money is available. Marybeth and Brandon will introduce the CARP at next Thursday's department head meeting.

SEC Public Communication

The SEC supports a coordinated environmental communications platform for environmental topics. The Wellesley Will branding could provide a useful umbrella. Marybeth will reach out to other departments and organize a group to discuss coordination. Stephanie Hawkinson is an essential part of this discussion, but Stephanie is currently extremely busy.

Marybeth introduced Judson Jaffe, a resident expert on economics and climate change.

Ellen Korpi made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:49 am, seconded by Fred Bunger, *and the Committee voted unanimously to adjourn.*

Exhibits Used

Minutes for March SEC meeting
Project Updates
Green Communities Grant Table