



SUSTAINABLE ENERGY COMMITTEE

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Sustainable Energy Director: Marybeth Martello

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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

May 15, 2020

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), Fred Bunger (SEC Vice Chair), Lise Olney, Ellen Korpi, Richard Lee, Cindy Mahr, and Susan Morris. Also present were Marybeth Martello (Sustainable Energy Director), Janet Mosley (SEC Assistant), Pamela Posey, Ellen Watts, Martha Collins, Mary Gard, and Jud Jaffe. Cindy Mahr was absent.

Citizen Speak - None

Minutes

Fred Bunger moved to approve the SEC's May 1 meeting minutes. Ellen Korpi seconded the motion *and the Committee voted to approve the April 3 meeting minutes.*

Climate Action and Resilience Plan

Marybeth Martello explained her ongoing work drafting the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Program Action Grant proposal which must be submitted to the state by June 11. The Committee discussed the proposal's scope, including its links to public health, equity and engagement with vulnerable communities. Marybeth discussed the proposal's focus on Communication Networks and Engagement Forums, in order to build communication channels and tools for engagement with municipal, residential, commercial and college sectors, and with vulnerable communities to achieve climate change goals. The Committee discussed the need to change behavior as well as policy in order to have the most impact. The Committee also discussed the need for mobility and transportation initiatives and concluded that, since the proposal must be coherent and streamlined, it will not address the full scope of the SEC's portfolio.

The Committee also discussed the possibility of working with a consultant over the summer on a wedge analysis and other elements of a standard climate action plan while we await results of the MVP grant application. Marybeth will provide budget numbers at the next meeting.

Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI) Building Electrification Accelerator Program

The Committee discussed the commitment and expectations of participating in the RMI Program. Fred Bunker and Mary Gard will be the primary contacts for the town. The Committee discussed the tremendous learning opportunity this program offers on building electrification and how this program and its goals fit with the Town's climate action initiatives. Lise Olney indicated that RMI understands that all MA towns work differently and there is no timetable for a commitment on a building electrification bylaw.

Lise Olney moved that the SEC vote to participate in the RMI Accelerator Program with the intention of exploring options for a building electrification bylaw. Fred Bunker seconded the motion, and *the Committee voted to approve the motion.*

Reopening of Town Departments and Town Hall

Meghan Jop requested that Departments create their own guidelines for reopening. The Committee agreed that Marybeth and Janet should continue working remotely during this stage of COVID-19, and that Marybeth should decide when it is appropriate or necessary to work from Town Hall.

Additional Business

Fred Bunker drafted an SEC letter encouraging the MA Board of Building Regulation and Standards (BBRS) to update the Stretch Code to a Net Zero Energy Code based on the EZ Code. The Committee discussed informing the Building, Facilities Management and Planning Departments about potential support for updates to the state Building Code.

Lise Olney informed the Committee about the Multi-town Gas Leaks Initiative webinar that took place with National Grid on May 14. There will be a webinar on May 28 regarding gas leaks and trees.

Laura Olton mentioned the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center's new residential initiative on clean energy <https://goclean.masscec.com>.

Marybeth Martello mentioned that she attended an Arizona State University webinar on health and environmental justice and climate action.

Ellen Korpi made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:45am, seconded by Fred Bunker, *and the Committee voted to adjourn.*

Exhibits Used - Minutes for May 1 SEC meeting, Draft Proposed Scope of Wellesley Will: Climate Resilience Empowerment Program, Advancing Building Electrification in Wellesley document submitted by Lise Olney (regarding Rocky Mountain Institute program)