



SUSTAINABLE ENERGY COMMITTEE

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SEC Project Updates

November 2, 2018

Green Communities

Water Systems Energy Audit

Marybeth Martello, Fred Bungler and Laura Olton will meet with the Department of Public Works (DPW) and Wright-Pierce consultants on Monday, November 5 to discuss the *Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Energy Evaluation (Energy Evaluation)* and discuss implications for Wellesley’s Green Communities grant application submissions. Marybeth shared draft results of the *Energy Evaluation* with Neal Duffy at the Department of Energy Resources. The Green Communities Program favors projects with the highest energy savings and best financial paybacks.

Lighting

The Facilities Management Department (FMD) invited Electrical Contractors (LeVangie, ESI, and SES) to bid on the light-emitting diode (LED) retrofit project on the DPW campus.

FMD received the following bids for the project and awarded the contract to ESI.

Bidder	Bid Amount
ESI	\$ 12,100
LeVangie	\$ 63,000

Next steps are as follows:

- Before Friday, November 2 – FMD will execute the contract and issue the Notice to Proceed
- November 5 – start project

- November 15 – complete project

Food Waste and Food Rescue Workshop

On October 24, 2018, Wellesley hosted 40 representatives from 70 schools in neighboring communities for a **Food Waste and Food Rescue Workshop**. The Workshop **focused on food waste diversion and food rescue in schools** - why these types of food recovery are important, what they involve and how institutions can implement food waste diversion and food rescue initiatives. Participants included food service providers, health department staff, sustainability group members, grassroots organizations, as well as school teachers and parents. Participants heard from the Cambridge-based, non-profit [Food For Free](#) and from Wellesley's 3R Working Group, [Sustainable Energy Committee](#) and Food Services Department. Participants also had an opportunity to talk with the head of Wellesley's [Health Department](#). Click on the links below to view the Workshop presentation and video:

- [Slide presentation from October 24 Food Waste and Food Rescue Workshop](#)
- [Video of food rescue and food waste diversion procedures in Wellesley](#)

SolSmart Designation Application

Laura Olton worked with the Wellesley Municipal Light Plant (WMLP), Board of Selectmen's office and with Planning and Building Departments to complete a SolSmart Designation application. A SolSmart Designation indicates that a community is "solar friendly," and Wellesley meets the qualifications for a silver-level designation. To meet some of the SolSmart requirements, Laura created a [Wellesley Solar Permit Checklist](#) and Marybeth created a [solar webpage](#) on the SEC website.

Electricity Emissions Factor

Marybeth and Janet Mosley met with Katy Gibson on October 24 to discuss the details of possibly calculating a custom electricity emissions factor for Wellesley that reflects renewable energy purchases by the WMLP. A decision was made to pursue this project now, given WMLP and SEC support for creating a Wellesley-specific emissions factor in time for the SEC's report to Annual Town Meeting. Janet has read the Portfolio Emissions Evaluation report completed for the WMLP by Energy New England. The report provides a good starting point for developing a methodology. Janet is working on compiling a list of questions and data requests for Dick Joyce, who has offered to provide insight and contacts that will help to move the project forward.

If the SEC chooses to use the custom electricity emissions factor as part of any data analysis presented at the next Annual Town Meeting, Marybeth and Katy anticipate the need to review this decision with the SEC, MLP, Board of Selectmen, and Sustainable Wellesley. Therefore,

Janet and Marybeth plan to prepare a presentation on this topic for delivery at the SEC's December meeting.

Transportation

On October 23, Ellen Korpi met with Cindy Mahr, Assistant Superintendent, and Deane McGoldrick, Transportation Director of Wellesley Public Schools, to discuss opportunities for reducing school-bus-related greenhouse gas emissions. Deane McGoldrick will be arranging a meeting with the Needham Public School Transportation Department to learn about their initiatives and the lobbying they have done in support of state-level improvements. Ellen has organized a November 5 meeting with the Council on Aging to discuss opportunities for reducing transportation-related emissions.

Sustainable Building Standards and Design Standards

Marybeth made minor revisions to Sustainable Building Standards (SBS) and sent the draft to Joe McDonough. Fred Burger drafted a helpful one-page summary of SBS that Marybeth will forward to FMD.

Fred Burger and Marybeth expect to meet with Joe and Steve Gagosian in the next week or so.

Fred attended a MCAN Green MUNI action meeting on October 18. The meeting provided advocacy training to help residents encourage MUNIs to take action on increasing green energy. Concord and Belmont committed to a goal of 100% renewable energy and Belmont presented on strategic electrification.

Fred participated in a webinar by Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships (NEEP): Advancing High Performance Schools / Zero Energy Schools. The webinar explained the US Department of Energy's Advanced Energy Design Guide for K-12 schools and other resources. The webinar also provided examples of Net Zero-ready Schools with energy use intensities (EUIs) of 26 -38.

Home Energy Savings Seminars and Home Energy Conversions

- Home Energy Seminar Oct 22nd - 3 attendees, all of whom will sign up for home energy assessments.
- Next Seminars at Tolles Parsons Center:
 - Wednesday November 14th at 1pm
 - Wednesday December 19th at 1pm
- Fred researched Wellesley energy conversions and found:
 - 92 oil-to-gas conversions since 2014
 - 27 oil or gas conversions to electric heat pump since 2016

SEC Website

Marybeth made a number of updates to the [SEC website](#) including a new solar section and a new section on food waste and food rescue outreach.

SEC FY20 Budget

Marybeth met with the Finance Department to discuss planning for the SEC's FY2020 budget. Marybeth will provide the SEC with a draft budget to discuss at the Committee's November 2 SEC meeting.

Wellesley Municipal Light Plant Update

Three members of the public spoke to the WMLP Board at the November 19 meeting. Mary Gard shared, with the Board, Sustainable Wellesley's views on desirable WMLP actions to eliminate greenhouse gas emissions from electricity. Fred Bunker reported on a recent MCAN workshop for residents of MLP communities to train them on effective initiatives to influence their MLP's on reducing GHG emissions. Mr. Farnum expressed his perspective that climate change is a crisis that requires strong action and asked Board members for their views. Board members expressed their pride in the actions WMLP has taken and is continuing to take to reduce emissions from its portfolio. The Board expressed their commitment to further responsible action.

The Board reviewed financial statements for the first quarter of FY19, which show that by the end of the fiscal year, cash on hand is forecast to be at or below the \$5 million minimum target established as desirable to support the WMLP AA stable rating from Standard and Poors.

Meetings are ongoing between WMLP and the developer at 900 Worcester to complete the roof lease agreement.