



## SUSTAINABLE ENERGY COMMITTEE

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### DRAFT

### SEC Project Updates

January 10, 2020

#### Green Communities

##### *Designation Grant Projects*

On January 10 (weather permitting) Verdek, Inc. will begin installation of the charging station. Installation should take two days. The total cost is \$20,530. Green Communities will provide \$10,000 and Traffic and Parking will cover the remaining cost.

On December 18, Marybeth Martello and Janet Mosley spoke with Neal Duffy, Wellesley's Green Community's representative, to discuss the close out of the Designation Grant and plans to apply in the 2020 competitive grant round. On December 23, Marybeth submitted to Department of Energy Resources (DOER), all Designation Grant invoices to date. When the charging station project is complete, Wellesley will have spent all \$137,250 of the designation grant funds. The Designation Grant Final Report is due to DOER on February 3.

##### **Green Communities Competitive Grant Round 2020**

We are awaiting Green Communities guidance materials for the 2020 grant round. We expect an application deadline in late February/early March.

Marybeth is in communication with the Natural Resources Commission and Playing Fields Task Force regarding the possibility of submitting a Green Communities grant application to seek funding for a light-emitting diode (LED) retrofit on the multipurpose playing field, Reidy Field or the tennis courts.

On January 9 Marybeth will meet with Scott Showstead from Police/Traffic and Parking to discuss plans to request Green Communities funding to support and LED retrofit of municipal parking lot lighting.

The Facilities Management Department will provide application materials to seek a Green Communities grant to fund an LED retrofit of interior lighting at Wellesley High School.

### **SEC Staffing Changes**

Laura Olton and Marybeth Martello met with the Human Resources (HR) Board on December 16. For the Administrator position, the HR Board approved a title change to Director to take effect immediately and a reclassification (from 54 to 55) to take effect on July 1, 2020. For the Assistant position, the Board approved a title change to Analyst and a reclassification (from 43-53), with these changes taking effect on July 1, 2020.

The HR Board did not have funding to support an increase in staff hours between January 1 and June 30, 2020 so Laura Olton and Ellen Korpi sought out alternative resources. Don Newell agreed to fund the current Assistant position at nine hours/week until June 30, 2020. The Assistant will work at the Wellesley Municipal Light Plant (WMLP) for those nine hours. Meghan Jop is including an Annual Town Meeting Warrant Article 7 transfer to increase the Sustainable Energy Director's position from 25 to 30 hours between January 1 and June 30.

### **Sustainable Buildings**

- **Municipal Sustainable Building Guidelines** (MSBG) On January 2, Marybeth Martello, Fred Bunker, Meghan Jop, Joe McDonough, Steve Gagosian and Abbie Miller-Lafrancesca to review the current draft MSBG and discuss the path for formalizing MSBG. Next steps are as follows:
  - Finish revising Guidelines per the above-mentioned meeting;
  - Hold a public hearing and revise Guidelines based on feedback;
  - Invite relevant boards to vote on and sign the Guidelines; and
  - Introduce Guidelines to Annual Town Meeting during SEC presentation.
  - Proposed signatories to MSBG are:
    - Board of Selectmen
    - School Committee
    - Library Trustees
    - Department of Public Works
    - Wellesley Municipal Light Plant
    - Recreation
    - Council on Aging
    - Natural Resources Commission
- **Sustainable Buildings at the Green Collaborative**: Fred Bunker, Leanne Cowley and Marybeth Martello have collaborated to develop "Building Our Way to a More Sustainable Future" for the January 21 Green Collaborative. Bill Maclay of Maclay Architects and Stephanie Horowitz of ZeroEnergy Design will be keynote speakers and

HVAC and building contractors will be available to answer questions. This week Marybeth prepared a press release and will send invitations to boards and committees for whom Guidelines are especially relevant. Announcements will run in the Globe, Townsman, Swellesley Report, etc. starting this week.

- Police Station Energy: Rise Engineering will conduct a free, energy audit will take place at the Police Station on January 14. Further audit and occupant behavior programs will be developed.
- Building Codes: Success! The 2021 version of the IECC code will improve energy efficiency more than 10%. Thanks to the many new voters signed up across the US, 97% of the energy improvement items were adopted. Thanks to the SEC voting members Lise, Sue, Laura, Richard, Fred, Janet and Marybeth.
- Hunnewell School Project: \$4.68 million appropriated for Schematic Design phase at 12/9 Special Town Meeting. Vote was 162 yes 35 no with 2 abstentions; easily passing the 2/3 majority required. Project turned over to Permanent Building Committee (PBC). The SEC will follow progress to ensure that sustainability requirements of LEED Silver certifiable and EUI < 30 are maintained thorough Design phase.
- Getting to Zero Energy schools: The New Buildings Institute (nbi) conducted a 12/17 webinar on zero energy schools. They highlighted Fall River, MA Bristol Community College and New York City proof-of-concept zero energy school construction: P.S. 62 – the Kathleen Grimm School in Staten Island, NY. Especially helpful was the extensive “lessons learned” from each of the stakeholders including the school principal. Elements stressed included enhanced commissioning and occupant training on how to operate for energy reduction and recommissioning.
- Buildings and the Climate Action Plan: Fred is investigating programs for improving energy efficiency of existing building stock. He reviewed Deep Energy Retrofit programs and various country, state and city policies mandating energy improvements. Fred is continuing to seek 2007 and 2018 data on building energy/greenhouse gas (GHG) measures to establish baseline and “business as usual” outcomes.

## **Transportation**

A public meeting with the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) took place on January 6. Much of the discussion focused on plans for a third rail between Weston and West Natick and for measures to make Wellesley’s three train stations compliant with the American Disabilities Act. Planning for this work will take two to three years and construction will last four to five years.

## **Citizen's Petition**

Sustainable Wellesley submitted the following Citizen's Petition for ATM 2020

To see if the Town will:

1. Reaffirm its commitment to achieving Wellesley's greenhouse gas emissions-reduction goal to reduce emissions 25% below the 2007 baseline by 2020, previously approved by the 2014 Annual Town Meeting.
2. Request that the Wellesley Municipal Light Plant help the town achieve this goal by increasing its non-emitting electricity to 80% by December 31, 2020.
3. Express its support for: a) providing all Town electricity customers with 80% non-emitting electricity through the Wellesley Voluntary Renewable Energy Program while leaving any customer the choice to opt out at any time; b) raising electricity rates in a fair and equitable manner to fund additional renewable electricity purchases or any other available means to meet the Town's 2020 emissions reduction goal.

## **Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness**

KLA provided a Draft Summary of Findings Report reflecting discussions at the two Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) workshops and public listening session. Brandon Schmitt requested feedback on the draft by Monday, January 13.

## **School Cafeteria Recycling and Food Waste Diversion**

FMD modified lids to the recycling receptacles at Hunnewell School to make recycling easier for students and lessen contamination. Interim lids are in place while we await the arrival of a more permanent replacement.

Sue Morris and Marybeth Martello will attend a meeting for the Middle School composting project on January 10.