



SUSTAINABLE ENERGY COMMITTEE

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SEC Project Updates

January 29, 2020

Green Communities

Designation Grant Projects

Verdek, Inc. installed a public electric vehicle (EV) charging station in the Waban Street Parking Lot, behind Bocado, in mid-January. Scott Showstead, Traffic and Parking and the Treasurer's Office have gotten the software up and running. Scott and Marybeth Martello are preparing to go before the Board of Selectmen (date TBD) to propose a policy for charging station operation. Marybeth and Scott have had several conversations with the Wellesley Municipal Light Plant and with the Board of Selectmen's Office about EV charger logistics and policy development.

Janet Mosley is drafting the Green Communities Designation Grant Final Narrative (due February 3) to close out the six projects that received Green Communities Designation Grant funding. Marybeth has updated the Department of Energy Resources (DOER) posted on the EV charger installation and is scheduling a DOER site visit to review all six projects for February.

Green Communities Competitive Grant Round 2020

The Green Communities 2020 application deadline is March 27. Marybeth is working with the Facilities Management Department and with Traffic and Parking on exterior light emitting diode retrofit projects. Since the field lighting project will not go forward for the 2020 grant round, Marybeth is seeking out other projects.

As a coordinator of the Multi-town Gas Leaks Initiative, Lise Olney attended a planning meeting last week with representatives of National Grid to launch a three-month pilot project aimed at accelerating leak repair. The Initiative formed three working groups that will each work with

National Grid to develop a specific project with measurable results. A fourth group will focus on the impact of gas leaks on trees, which National Grid is not yet ready to address.

Greenhouse Gas Inventory

Janet began reaching out to contacts for community energy use, set up ICLEI for data entry for new year and entered some municipal data for FY19.

Janet also Participated in the January 7, 2020 ISO New England's Environmental Advisory Group (EAG) Conference Call. ISO NE was presenting their draft 2018 system emissions report. There was significant discussion between other participants and ISO NE staff about how emissions are calculated, particularly the fact that imported electricity is not factored in. ISO NE staff would like to make changes to include imported electricity, but the data is not available for the Canadian sources.

SEC Budget

On January 22, Laura Olton and Marybeth Martello presented the SEC's FY21 budget to the Advisory Committee. The post-presentation discussion was very positive.

Citizen's Petition

Janet is Reviewing renewable energy certificate (REC) purchase calculations by Scott Bender and discussed these calculations with Scott.

Green Collaborative

At the January 21st Green Collaborative, "Building Our Way to a More Sustainable Future," Stephanie Horowitz of ZeroEnergy Design spoke on residential zero energy design. Bill McClay of Maclay Architects spoke on municipal and commercial design and on cost effective zero energy projects. Marybeth and Fred presented the Municipal Sustainable Building Guidelines (MSBG). Six contractors also attended and answered questions on installing energy efficient equipment in Wellesley. Over 80 people attended and the post-meeting feedback was very positive. The open discussion identified a need to review Town bylaws that hinder building efficiency improvements.

The May 5th Green Collaborative meeting will focus on zero waste.

Municipal Sustainable Building Guidelines (MSBG)

On January 2, Marybeth and Fred reviewed MSBG with FMD and the Meghan Jop, Executive Director of General Government Services. The group decided to formalize MSBG through a public hearing followed by signatures from relevant Town entities. The Public Hearing scheduled for 7PM January 29th in Great Hall, Town Hall. The SEC will request the following

boards to vote on MSBG: Board of Selectmen, School Committee, Library Board of Trustees, Department of Public Works, WMLP, Natural Resources Commission, Recreation Commission.

Marybeth and Fred presented MSBG to BOS on January 21st and received positive support.

Marybeth revised the MSBG draft based on the January 2 meeting and shared the draft with FMD for additional input. Fred Bunger researched methods for establishing energy use intensity (EUI) targets for major building renovations with Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships (NEEP), New Building Institute (nbi), Massachusetts Climate Action Network, etc. He concluded that a single EUI target is not possible. Major renovations would need to meet the Stretch Energy Code as a minimum, so an EUI target of 20% below that could be considered. Fred also found that nbi Zero Energy Performance Targets could be potentially relevant for setting EUI targets for different types of buildings.

Police Station Energy Audit

On January 14, Marybeth met with Rise Engineering, FMD and the Police Department custodian for a free energy audit through MassSave. We are awaiting the audit report.

MCAN Gas Ban Webinar

On January 8, Fred participated in an MCAN webinar on banning gas hookups in new construction. Cambridge reported on their ongoing process to use MGL c.40 section 21 to enact an ordinance that would not require Attorney General approval. Brookline has enacted a ban on new gas hookups and received Attorney General approval. Both processes stressed heavy publicity and open meetings to build understanding and secure approval.

3R Working Group

The 3R Working Group met on January 24 and discussed:

- The next Green Collaborative (May 5) which will focus on the topic of Toward Zero Waste. 3R formed a working group to focus on preparations for May 5 and general outreach for the Recycling and Disposal Facility.
- Textile recycling at the RDF
- Corsage containers
- New projects focusing on the reuse of household goods
- Food rescue at Linden Square
- Composting at the Wellesley Middle School (WMS) and Wellesley High School (WHS)

Marybeth has been in touch with the WHS and WMS composting groups. Marybeth also introduced a new volunteer (who is enthusiastically pursuing projects regarding the reuse of household items) to a number of potential partners across town.