



SUSTAINABLE ENERGY COMMITTEE

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SEC Project Updates

January 9, 2017

Green Communities

Work toward the Green Communities application is progressing with the solar zoning bylaw amendment and the Energy Reduction Plan.

Solar Zoning Bylaw Amendment

- On December 5, Laura Olton and Michael D'Ortenzio, Jr. presented the Green Communities application process and the solar zoning bylaw amendment to the Planning Board. The PB gave the amendment a positive reception.
- On December 12, Ellen Korpi and Marybeth included discussion of the Green Communities application process and zoning bylaw amendment in their presentation to the Board of Selectmen. The BOS was highly supportive of the amendment and their endorsement letter is forthcoming.
- On December 19, the PB voted to unanimously endorse the zoning bylaw amendment and suggested that the SEC include a rendering of the ground-mounted solar array on the cloverleaf site and add requirements regarding buffers and setbacks. Since, Green Communities Criterion 1 requires zoning only and does not require construction of a solar array, the SEC members working on this project believe that the current zoning map, included in the PB package, is sufficient and that a rendering of a solar array could imply a construction requirement and could, therefore, be misleading. Tom Harrington confirmed that buffer and setback requirements could be addressed if/when construction of a ground-mounted solar array were considered for the cloverleaf or other site in Wellesley.
- Marybeth edited the bylaw text to reflect Dick Joyce's suggestion that the bylaw refer to the mandatory placement of utility lines underground. Tom Harrington approved this revision. On December 28, Meghan Jop entered the bylaw into the Warrant.
- Marybeth is reaching out to other towns to understand processes that they have in place to develop, prioritize, and otherwise manage the Green Communities grant application process. The SEC will work with Town officials to outline a grant management process for Wellesley.

- Marybeth is preparing a “wish list” of projects for which Town departments would be interested in obtaining Green Communities funding. Thus far, the list includes:
 - Controls, air sealing, HVAC upgrades, insulation, boiler replacements and conversions, window and door replacements, lighting upgrades, etc.
 - Energy management systems
 - LED streetlight conversions
 - Electric vehicles and charging stations
 - Feasibility studies for renewable energy systems (solar, geothermal, wind)
 - Solar PV arrays
 - Education programs on energy efficiency
 - Energy consultants and program managers
 - LED lights in buildings
- Ellen Gibbs is helping us to navigate the ATM process and has outlined the next steps:
 - BOS prepares endorsement letter for submission prior to public hearing
 - Start of February - Public Zoning Hearing
 - First/second week of February – Advisory Public Hearing
 - Submit write up/report for Advisory Book (check deadlines, specifications with Advisory liaison)
 - Town Meeting begins Mar. 27th
- On January 13, Laura, Michael, Ellen, Marybeth, and Andrea will meet to prepare for the Advisory meeting on January 18.

Energy Reduction Plan

On December 1, Marybeth and Ellen discussed the Energy Reduction Plan data requirements with Allen Hebert and Joe McDonough. Allen can provide some of the data required for establishing a baseline in Mass Energy Insight (MEI). Matthew Hornung started to compile data for the baseline. Marybeth is seeking authorization to access MEI. According to Meghan Jop, Marybeth is likely to need authorization from several departments across Town.

WasteWise Wellesley

A number of WasteWise initiatives are underway and Ellen Korpi will discuss these programs at the SEC meeting on January 9.

Bates and Potential Recycling at other Wellesley Schools

In December, Marybeth met with several visitors to Bates who are interested in learning about the recycling pilot. Mike Santangelo (head custodian), Al Martignetti (Bates custodian), and Toni Jolley (Bates Principal) were also on hand for some of the visits. Visitors included:

- Christine Beling, USEPA Project Engineer
- Wellesley Principals: Mark Ito (WMS), Rachel McGregor (Fiske), and Susan Synder (Sprague). The Fiske and Sprague principals are enthusiastic about implementing the Bates program at their schools. Mark Ito is supporting a new bottle recycling program at WMS.
- Sprague, Fiske, and WMS parents. These parents are highly motivated to implement cafeteria recycling and are working closely with principals.
- Two Union representatives

Marybeth has provided the elementary school teams with a checklist of elements necessary for successful cafeteria recycling, based on the Bates experience. She has also provided them with the Bates Cafeteria Assessment Report and PowerPoint presentations.

On January 11, Marybeth will present the Bates program to the head custodians from Fiske and Sprague. If that meeting goes well, Sprague and Fiske will have a green light to move forward. David Lussier has been highly supportive of the Bates program and has endorsed a roll-out to other schools.

The USEPA will include a link to the Bates Cafeteria Assessment Report in their next e-newsletter.

SEC Presentation to the BOS

Ellen Korpi and Marybeth presented to the BOS on December 12. They discussed the SEC's mission and GHG accounting, and provided an overview of all SEC projects, with special attention to WasteWise Wellesley, sustainable building guidelines, and Green Communities. The BOS was extremely supportive of the SEC's work and endorsed the solar zoning bylaw amendment. They also agreed with the need for a process to explore sustainable building guidelines and urged the SEC to move quickly on this issue.

900 Worcester

On December 15 Ellen Korpi, Marybeth, and Scott Bender met with Selectman, Dave Murphy, to discuss the 900 Worcester Street project. At that time lease negotiation were progressing slowly. At the Department Head meeting on January 5, Hans Larsen noted progress in these negotiations and mentioned that relevant Town departments/boards will be invited to meet with the developer. Dick Joyce noted that the MLP will be meeting with the developer to see if there is a potential business relationship regarding the MLP's ownership of a solar array on the 900 Worcester facility.

Sustainable Building Guidelines Working Group

The Permanent Building Committee has invited the SEC to come to a PBC meeting to present on sustainable building guidelines. The PBC proposed January 12 and 19, and noted that the agenda on January 12 would provide more time for discussion. Matthew Hornung is researching sustainable building guidelines in other communities. Ellen Korpi and Marybeth have discussed guidelines with Joe McDonough and he is open to establishing a process for developing such guidelines.

Power to Choose

The Power to Choose campaign is continuing to visit events across Town. Expo's Sustainability Challenge for K-12 students this year will focus on renewable energy. The PTC campaign will also host Expo exhibits.

LED Street Lights

The MLP received a DOER grant of \$281,000 to put toward the conversion of streetlights to LED. Katy will provide a verbal update of the street light program at the SEC's January 9 meeting.

Greenhouse Gas Inventory

Marybeth has begun to enter Town energy use data into the ClearPath software.

Green Power Designation

The Town of Wellesley has received the 2017 United States Environmental Protection Agency's ("EPA") Green Power Community designation. This designation is awarded based on a combination of the purchase of 5% of the Town's annual electricity consumption (for all Town Departments and streetlights) from renewable energy and the amount of electricity purchased from the Town-wide voluntary renewable energy program.