

TOWN OF WELLESLEY



MASSACHUSETTS

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY COMMITTEE

TOWN HALL • 525 WASHINGTON STREET • WELLESLEY, MA 02482-5992

SEC Administrator: Marybeth Martello
SEC@wellesleyma.gov

Laura Olton, Chair
Ellen Korpi, Vice Chair
Scott Bender
Michael D'Ortenzio, Jr.
Katy Gibson
Steven Gusmini
Thomas Ulfelder

SEC Project Updates

November 6, 2017

Green Communities

Marybeth revised and submitted Wellesley's Green Communities application to the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (DOER) on October 27. Most of the revisions resulted from a new batch of National Grid errors that appeared in the MassEnergyInsight software during October. We expect to hear back from DOER in mid-December regarding Wellesley's designation. The SEC plans to move ahead with coordinating the initial grant application, due on February 9, 2018. DOER confirmed that moving ahead with application preparations, at this time, is a good idea. DOER also encouraged us to focus more on buildings and less on vehicles in our application.

Staff Support

Laura, Ellen, and Tom have been working with Human Resources and Blythe on including additional SEC staff support in the FY19 budget.

Advisory

On November 1, Laura, Ellen, Tom, and Marybeth presented to Advisory. The presentation reviewed current projects, future plans, and potential changes to SEC staff support.

Food Rescue and Donation Program

The Health Department approved Standard Operating Procedures for college food donation.

On November 1, Alison Cross attended the Waste Wise Fall Forum. The Forum was an excellent networking opportunity and Alison made the most of it.

Food for Free is now rescuing food from Wellesley Middle School (WMS), Olin, and Bentley Colleges, and we are close to adding WHS, Babson, and Wellesley Colleges. Food for Free is now working with Mass Bay Community College to arrange a program for their food insecure students (estimated at 30% to 50% of the student population) to receive rescued food.

Alison Cross and Ellen were guests of the residents' Sustainability Committee at NewBridge on the Charles, a prestigious senior living community in Dedham, to discuss food rescue and food waste diversion. After hearing about our Wellesley initiatives, the Executive Director was interested in further pursuing possibilities. We have connected them with our US Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) contact who will arrange a site visit for them. The dream is for NewBridge to adopt these programs and then lead other senior living communities by example.

To further spread food rescue initiatives through Wellesley's leadership:

- Michael D'Ortenzio has invited the President of Whitsons to see Matt Delaney's program at WMS in the hopes that Matt's work will inspire best practices at the more than 100 schools that Whitsons services.
- Our US EPA contact is working with us to arrange a food rescue site visit at WMS for nearby public school systems.
- The 3R (Reduce, Reuses, Recycle) Working Group is hosting a meeting with local colleges and FMD to compare notes on food waste diversion programs and vendors.

School Recycling

US EPA invited Bates School to submit data and a narrative for US EPA's Regional Achievement Awards. Marybeth submitted these materials in early October.

Wellesley College

On October 26, Ellen Korpi and Marybeth met with Rob Lamppa and Dorothea Von Herder of Wellesley College. This meeting was an opportunity to meet Rob, the new Director for Energy Infrastructure and Chief Sustainability Officer at Wellesley College. Rob has had an impressive career overseeing domains such as facilities, energy management, and sustainability at Carlton College, University of Maine, Oberlin College, and the University of Wisconsin. Dorothea is Wellesley's Sustainability Coordinator.

Website

On October 30, Marybeth attended the IT Department's website training and Marybeth now has access to the SEC's website.

MLP

At its meeting on October 30, the Wellesley Municipal Light Plant (WMLP) took the following actions:

- Approved the purchase of LED streetlights

The selected streetlight for residential neighborhoods is 2700 kelvin, 24 watts, with a BUG rating of 1 for Backlighting, 0 for Uplighting, and 1 for Glare and a rating of 70 on the color rendering index (a key factor for good visibility and a significant improvement over the current high pressure sodium lights). Compared with the pilot lights on Croton (2700 kelvin), the lower wattage for the selected light (24 vs. 31) and the different design (a single point of light for the pilot vs. 16 dispersed diodes for the selected fixture) both contribute to reducing glare. We believe that Wellesley will be the first town in Massachusetts to install 2700 kelvin lights.

The WMLP mailed a survey to every household in Wellesley seeking comment on pilot fixtures installed on Croton and Pine streets. The survey form and a summary of the responses received has been installed on the WMLP website. Look under LED Streetlight Replacement Project on the left hand side.

- Reviewed an analysis prepared by Energy New England of the carbon emissions reduction 2007 to projected 2017 and 2018 for WMLP power portfolio. This analysis is posted on the WMLP website under the "About the WMLP" tab. This analysis projects that in 2018, when the Canton Mountain wind farm is in production, the WMLP will achieve a reduction of 25% to 30%, depending on whether a policy is adopted to retain all the RECs the WMLP receives. Three factors contribute to this reduction: lower total sales, an increase in renewable energy in the WMLP portfolio, and a reduction in carbon emissions for the New England grid as a whole. The methodology in the ICLEI model used by the SEC includes only two of these factors: sales and grid emissions.
- Reviewed a draft scope of service for a consultant study to evaluate the alternatives available to the WMLP to achieve further reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.

"The end product of this engagement is a formal report that details a systematic reduction of GHG emissions, a strategic plan to achieve the reduction, the methodology utilized to calculate the reduction, and the costs the WMLP can expect to incur from the implementation of each recommended strategy...At a minimum the consultant must demonstrate expertise in the following areas:

- Energy Conservation: Identify programs and technologies that have a demonstrated history of success...with a premium placed on the reduction of monthly and annual peak demand.
- Renewable Power: Ability to evaluate the WMLP's current power supply portfolio and identify opportunities to expand renewable power sources.
- RECs: Understanding of Massachusetts solar and class 1 RECs and the ability to opine on the advantages and disadvantages.

- Alternative strategies: Including but not limited to battery storage, carbon sequestration investment, Smart Grid deployment, time-of-days rates, etc.
- Increased Electrical Usage: Identify those technologies that will increase electricity usage such as electric vehicles, geothermal installations, mini-split heat pumps and other applications.
- Financial Modeling: Ability to prepare complex financial models capable of predicting GHG emission reductions, associated costs and financial impact for milestone years 2020, 2025, 2030, 2040 and 2050.

The MLP is seeking input on consultants who would be qualified to perform this work. Suggestions welcome.

- Agreed to a 10-year contract to purchase up to 5 MW of power from Seabrook.