



## SUSTAINABLE ENERGY COMMITTEE

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### SEC Project Updates

**May 4, 2017**

#### Hardy, Hunnewell, Upham

Ellen and Marybeth attended the joint SC-BOS meeting on April 13. Ellen met with Matt Kelley and Sharon Gray to discuss swing space and a possible role for the SEC in the HHU process.

#### Sustainable Building Guidelines

The SEC, FMD, and PBC tour of Wellesley High School's sustainability features will take place on Friday, May 5 from 8-9:00am. We are expecting about 19 attendees including FMD, SEC, PBC, School Committee members, and members of SMART, the group that advocated for a green high school when the building was under development.

#### Green Communities

Michael did a great job presenting Article 31 at ATM. This Article, regarding as-of-right siting for a ground-mounted solar installation, passed with a unanimous vote.

Laura will take the lead on developing a policy to purchase fuel efficient vehicles (FEV), and Matthew is continuing to help out with this effort (thank you Laura and Matthew!!).

Marybeth is preparing a draft Energy Reduction Plan (ERP) and a set of specific queries for MLP, DPW, and FMD regarding their energy conservation measures since FY15 and those expected until 2020.

Marybeth reached out to Ellen Gibbs and Sharon Gray to ask if the SEC could present to their boards in mid-June. The FEV and the ERP require signatures from both the BOS and SC. In mid-June, Laura, Michael, and Marybeth plan to present draft versions of the FEV and ERP and gather questions and comments. In September the SEC will return to the BOS and SC with final documents and a request for signatures.

### **Unified Plan**

Katy, Michael, and Marybeth are part of the UP's Sustainable Systems and Networks Working Group. Upcoming meetings will take place on May 17, May 24, and June 12.

Michael Zehner has reached out to the MAPC to suggest a sustainability audit as a possible project for Wellesley. Michael will follow-up with Marybeth after he hears back from MAPC.

### **Green Collaborative**

The Green Collaborative met on April 25. Among many encouraging updates was a story from Matt Delaney. Matt presented the new, reusable, recyclable, plastic containers in which he is starting to serve cold lunches. These new containers will replace the 9000 disposable, plastic containers that Wellesley Food Services uses annually. The new containers will pay for themselves in about 20 uses and are predicted to last for about 300 uses. Preserve, the Massachusetts-based company that produces the containers, accepts them back when they are worn out. It is exciting to know that this success may be scalable through Whitson's 25 other school district contracts in MA and through its many contracts in other states. Many thanks to Green Schools and Phyllis Theermann who discovered the containers and bought them to Matt's attention!

### **HomeWorks Energy**

The MLP recently partnered with HomeWorks Energy (HWE) to promote home energy audits and energy saving improvements. The MLP and HWE will refer gas heating households to the Mass Save program and other residential energy saving services. HWE will grant funds to the MLP to encourage promotion of the program. The MLP could earn up to approximately \$14,700 if the number of home energy assessments, insulation installs and heating system installs reach certain goals.

### **3R Working Group/WasteWise Update**

**MassBay** - Ellen and Marybeth met with several administrative staff members at MassBay to discuss a career closet for male MassBay students. Female students already participate in a Dress for Success program that meets their needs. We discussed the possibility of setting up a career closet with men's interview clothing donations for MassBay students and Wellesley residents. Through this program, Wellesley community members could provide mentoring and job application/interview training for career closet patrons. We are pursuing conversations on all of these fronts to seek ways that the Wellesley community can be supportive. Any potential initiative is complicated and not assured.

**New Resident Welcome Package** – At its next meeting, the 3R Working Group will brainstorm how to integrate a 3R message in the welcome package and possibly including it in a reusable shopping bag.

**Promotion of Reusable Shopping Bags** - After Landscapes for Living on May 13, NRC and SW will renew focus on this topic.

## **Food Waste Diversion**

- **Public Schools** - Marybeth and Ellen will meet with Joe McDonough to discuss his plans for next year's waste hauling contract
- **RDF** - Jeff will design a proposal for a pilot food waste drop off at the RDF

## **Food Rescue**

- **Public Schools** - Marybeth and Alison are continuing to work with the Health Department and Food Services to develop mutually acceptable protocols for pre- and post-consumer food rescue in Wellesley Public Schools. They carried out research into practices in MA schools and schools across the country. They met with Matt Delaney, Lloyd Tarlin, and Lenny Izzo at WMS on April 12 and at Bates on April 27 to discuss details. Alison and Marybeth are currently finalizing the protocols and plan to share them with the Health Department soon.
- **Colleges** - Jeff and Ellen are continuing to coordinate with the colleges, the EPA, and DEP to develop a local food rescue network.

**Potential Polystyrene Ban** - NRC will reach out to the Health Department to test their interest in approaching a polystyrene ban from the cancer-prevention perspective. Marybeth will do more research on a lifecycle approach to materials used in food service establishments.

**Commercial Recycling** - Marybeth will research approaches in other venues

**Recycling of Construction Materials** - Jeff and Ellen will review the Best Practices recently issued by Recycling Works and will share it with Tom Ulfelder

**Rats** - Jeff and Marybeth will consider an initiative in commercial areas to better manage waste containers

**SMRP** – On Thursday, Marybeth will meet with Jeff Azano-Brown, Blythe Robinson, DEP, and others to discuss possible projects for the Massachusetts Sustainable Materials Recovery Program Municipal Grants. Many of the above projects are potential grant opportunities.

**Repair** - Ellen will remind the group working on the repair initiative to coordinate with Jeff who might be able to help them.

**Gas Leaks** - NRC will arrange for a DPW meeting with the Home Energy Efficiency Team (HEET).