

Sustainable Energy Committee Minutes – February 1, 2013

Juliani Room, Wellesley Town Hall

Committee Members Present:

Ellen Korpi, Chair
Scott Bender
Jessica Langerman
Suzanne Littlefield
Barbara Searle
Stephen Tolley
Molly Fairchild, Sustainable Energy Coordinator

Absent: Richard Joyce

Guests: Debra Healy, Business Manager, MLP

Ann Rappaport, Advisory Committee Liaison

Allen Hebert, Energy Manager, Facilities Maintenance Department

Joe McDonough, Director, Facilities Maintenance Dept

Citizens' Speak: no one spoke

Minutes: Minutes from 1-04-13 approved

Old Business

Energy Manager's Report

Allen Hebert presented a draft of the Town's Energy Policy, as a live document, with the appendices still being developed. The Policy was unanimously approved as amended.

Next Steps:

- The Energy Policy will be presented to the BOS and School Committee for approval, and then sent to the other Boards for input.
- The specific initiatives described in the appendices will not be included, but will be further developed and include estimated savings from each type of initiative.

Current Projects include: Training in new Software, both Utility Direct and Conserve Direct. This software will be used to generate reports and correct for heating degree days and cooling degree days. Staff is also getting PPO Massachusetts purchasing certification. Plans are underway to roll out the **Metasys** Building Automation Systems, that is currently used in the High School and Library and a few other buildings to all of the schools and Town buildings.

At WMS, energy efficiency improvements include reprogramming light settings for time of day and weekends, and CO2 controls on the unit ventilators, to aerate by need.

Plans to convert the Fuel oil burner at the Fells Library to natural gas will complete the process of moving from fuel oil to natural gas heat (the less expensive and cleaner fuel source) in all of our buildings.

Energy Capital Plans. Allen Hebert has prepared a template of 8-10 typical conservation measures as a check list for each of the 20 facilities maintenance buildings.

The Town obtained 16,000 T-8 28 watt light bulbs , instead of T-8 32 watts, for free through a brief Mass Save grant program, to be installed over the next eight weeks in our schools and Town buildings. The old T-8 CFLs bulbs will be recycled for their estimated 300 grams of mercury, at a cost of \$3000, far less than the estimated energy savings of \$37,000, annually.

Regional Green House Gas Initiative (RGGI) Legislation

Debra Healy, the MLP's Business Manager, reported that there are now 41 sponsors for the Regional Green House Gas (RGGI) legislation that would return up to 80% of the funds received from customers who are served by municipal light plants (MLPs), to the MLPS to support local energy efficiency, with 10% remaining with the Department of Energy and 10% paid to their trade associations for administrating the program.. Thanks to the work of our MLP and Selectman Barbara Searle for reaching out to the 40 MLP municipalities, and Sen. Creem, Sen. Ross and Rep. Alice Peisch.

Next Steps:

- Deadline for Sponsorship, is 5pm today.
- Rep. Peisch is coordinating outreach to the Executive Branch and to the legislative Energy Committees
- The bill is expected to be considered sometime later this spring.

Municipal GHG Emissions FY07 and FY12: Methods and current reports

Steve Tolley, Molly Fairchild and the MLP have been working to update and verify the municipal energy and emissions database. This has included converting the data to the newest version of the Clean Air and Climate Protection (CACP V3.0) software that includes the imbedded conversion factors needed to calculate emissions for any fuel. A parallel master spreadsheet has also been developed to the energy data and emissions, based on the estimated emissions conversion factors.

The source fuels used to generate electricity vary in different regions of the country, as well as year to year. In 2009, when the Town's baseline year of 2007 was established, only estimated emissions for electric generation were available for 2007. The new 2012-version of the EPA **Emissions Generation Resource Integrated Database (eGRID)**, now includes actual data from the Northeast Power Coordinating Council (NPCC -NE) electric grid for 2007, and so has been selected as the best emissions conversion factors to describe the electric supply of the Municipal Light Plant. Although specific eGRID data is also now available for Massachusetts, it was not selected because of the greater percentage of coal-fired generation. The electric emissions conversion factors for FY12 are estimates based on the most recent available data (2009) from the 2012-version eGRID for the NPCC New England.

Next steps:

- Complete Data update and analysis for Municipal next week
- Complete town-wide Data Update and Analyses by mid-Feb, depending on availability of 2012 Data
- Complete description of sources of change in emissions
- Prepare report for Advisory Book by end of February
- Brief presentation at Wellesley Club meeting in Mid-March

Power to Save Campaign

The Audit working group is continuing to work with the CSG and ENE to develop an integrated audit for residents, with a goal of 5% of owned residences, or about double the current annual audit rate. The promotional campaign would be in March and April, with audits scheduled into the summer.

Next steps:

- Present proposed integrated Audit program to the MLP Board on February 11, with proposed funding from a moratorium on the Appliance Rebate Program.

Organic Waste Management

The working group has met with the Health department and the DPW/RDF to gain an understanding of current practices in towns that are using innovative organic waste management systems. Discussions are continuing with the colleges and grocery stores to understand the current organic waste management systems and coordinate plans to meet the DEP waste management regulations that will begin in 2014.

The Working group is continuing to do more research on the cost and benefit of wet versus dry-digester for organic waste management, as well as considering collaboration with Needham to provide the right mix for composting of leaves and organic waste,

Next steps:

- Outreach to others who have organic waste management programs
- Outreach to a member of the Board of Health, to include them in the research
- May also want to coordinate support for RDF Home composters.
- Interested citizens volunteers also available for fieldtrips

Realtors Initiative

Jessica Langermann and her Working Group have met with a number of realtors to identify the best way to encourage new home buyers to take advantage of the home energy audit program.

Based on the feedback from the discussions, the Working Group will change its advocacy program to include

- Provide marketing materials about the “Green-ness” of Wellesley
- Encourage realtors to obtain the Green MLS certification
- Encourage realtors who must complete community service for the aforementioned certification, to volunteer on SEC initiatives.
- Reach out to realtors during the **POWER TO SAVE** campaign

Transportation Update from the Transportation Advisory Group

The Transportation Advisory Group is continuing to work on developing fixed-route bus service with a more complete update expected next month.

New Business

A motion was considered and approved, for the SEC to work with the Natural Resources Commission (NRC), to call a meeting of all boards and volunteer groups with an interest in sustainability, sometime in March, to discuss the Green Ribbon Study Committee’s Sustainable Energy Plan vision of continuing to develop collaborative initiatives addressing the broader scope of Sustainability in the community, and share ideas on current and future projects. The forum would include a social-hour to facilitate networking.

Next Steps:

- Schedule Wakelin room at library

Meeting Adjourned: 9:20 a.m.

Next Meeting: March 1, 2013 (Friday 7:45-9:00 a.m.)