



## SUSTAINABLE ENERGY COMMITTEE

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

SEC@WELLESLEYMA.GOV

Ellen Korpi, Chair  
Scott Bender  
Tere Ramos  
Ellen Gibbs  
Katy Gibson  
Laura Olton  
Steve Tolley

### SEC MEETING MINUTES (November 4, 2014)

#### Board Room – Wellesley Municipal Light Plant

Attendees: Ellen Korpi, Chair, Scott Bender, Tere Ramos, Ellen Gibbs, Katy Gibson, Laura Olton, Steve Tolley

Guests: Quentin Prideaux (Transportation Initiative), Elizabeth May (Transportation Initiative), Matt Hornung (President of High School Green Team and member of Transportation Initiative), Phyllis Theerman (Wellesley Green Schools); Gig Babson (Town Government Study Committee)

**Citizen's Speak** – None

#### **October Meeting Minutes – APPROVED**

##### Update on **More POWER TO CHOOSE**

Ellen Korpi provided a brief update on the More Power to Choose program. We have exceeded our goal of 50 residences contracted to install solar. The current count with Astrum is 56, which together with other vendors means an increase from 8 to 69 homeowners generating electricity on their roofs. Discussed about Village Power for solar development on Houses of Faith in town and announced a meeting with Houses of Faith for 11/14.

##### **Transportation Initiative**

Ellen Gibbs, who coordinates the Transportation Working Group for the SEC (including 2 high school students) spoke about their first meetings. Goal is to: increase use of alternative forms of transportation (vs. single occupancy and fossil fuel vehicles) and reduce GHG emissions by x% (need to figure out how to calculate metrics). There are many issues to address associated with the initiative: convenience, cost, lots of transportation in and around Boston; commuting to/from Boston; within Wellesley; to schools, to team practices/games; school bus participation; bike racks. What are the barriers to taking public transportation into Boston? They are discussing branding and logo design including **WAYS TO GO WELLESLEY** Website that will house transportation information – walk, train, bike, bus, carpool, etc.

##### **Town Government Study Committee**

Discussion on the Role of the Committee -- Town Bylaw creating the SEC –

**Should SEC expand mission to include all sustainability?** No but we clarified that the focus of our existing mission includes recycling since waste management has an impact on carbon footprint and organic waste is a potential feedstock for renewable energy.

**How do we execute on that?**

1. We will meet with Public Works representatives to explain this expanded focus.
2. When items on the agenda involve Public Works, we will invite them to participate in our meeting.

**How can sustainability become more embedded in the municipal/school culture?** Have Town departments include in their budget presentations to Advisory and Town Meeting and/or in the Town Annual Report, what they are doing to improve their sustainable practices.

**How do we execute on that?**

1. Request that BOS and Advisory require this report.
2. Ellen Korpi (or hopefully some other SEC member) will coordinate the drafting of the communication template that will be provided to the Town departments that provides them the tools to consider what they might include in a report. It will provide a definition of what “sustainable practices” are and some ideas of the types of activities that might be included to build support for this, members of the SEC will meet one on one with the various Board chairs.
3. Research the permitting process and how sustainability is currently considered.

**Should the structure of the SEC be changed.** No.

**How can we improve our functionality without changing our structure?**

1. Assure that any group, eg Public Works, NRC and Facilities, is included in any discussions involving the issues they manage.
2. Continue the use of “Working Groups” for SEC initiatives that involve many non-SEC members.
3. Encourage attendance and participation at SEC meetings of non-voting citizens who are actively involved in the SEC Working Groups.

**The SEC should continue to support the development of Wellesley’s Green Collaborative as the best way to foster Town government/citizen cooperation on sustainability issues, to broaden the support for initiatives and to identify ways in which issues/initiatives cut across multiple groups.**

