



SUSTAINABLE ENERGY COMMITTEE

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Ellen Korpi, Chair
Scott Bender
Patti Quigley
Ellen Gibbs
Katy Gibson
Laura Olton
Patrick Willoughby

SEC MEETING MINUTES

MLP Board Room

Thursday September 3, 2015

Attendees: Ellen Korpi, Scott Bender, Patti Quigley, Ellen Gibbs, Katy Gibson, Laura Olton, Pat Willoughby,

Guest: Quentin Prideaux (Sustainable Wellesley)

Citizen's Speak - none

Minutes – Postponing review of minutes until next meeting.

Election of Chair – Motion to Elect Ellen Korpi as Chair -- APPROVED

Report on 3R Working Group including Approval of Bag It Event Co-Sponsorship

Ellen Korpi provided an update of the 3R Working Group accomplishments. Merchant survey of Wellesley Square completed. Interviewed 30 merchants. Seems to be no pushback on plastic bag ban from these merchants. Need to vote to co-sponsor an event on Sept. 25 – show “Bag It”, then have a discussion on a plastic bag ban.

Motion to Support the “To Ban or Not to Ban Event” - APPROVED

Gas Leak legislation

Group discussed number of gas leaks in town and proposal brought to Ellen Korpi from Sierra Club regarding gas leak legislation and whether to recommend a municipal resolution to support it. After discussion, Group supports theory and favors repairing gas leaks in town more quickly and efficiently, but needs to do more diligence on economics, perspective of DPU and others.

Report from MLP

Katy Gibson reported for the MLP on FY15. The MLP funded \$105,000 in Solar Rebates, performed a Lighting Initiative, is thinking about a better approach to home energy audits, is coordinating an RFP with Wellesley College and Babson College for solar installations on the campuses, also is willing to contribute a dollar amount to be matched by town for salary of a staff position. Discussion regarding restoration of part-time staff position, Town Sustainability Coordinator.

Discussion on Enhancing Integration of Sustainability in Town Government

Ellen Gibbs stated that the Selectman and Planning Board are coordinating the Strategic Plan and Master Plan. Discussion regarding the proposed language to fit into the Town Manager's job description: "Working with Town Boards and Committees, implements sustainable practices in Town buildings and operations and oversees environmentally responsible stewardship of the Town's natural assets."

Motion: To recommend to Board to Selectman to include this language in the Town Manager Job Description – APPROVED

There is an NRC meeting tonight (9/3/15) and they will vote on this language as well. On Tuesday, night the Town Government Study Committee will be rolling out its recommendations to the Board of Selectman. Discussion ensued whether the Land Use Division/Planning and Land Management Division is the best placement for the SEC. Discussion regarding how we can best serve the community and where our best seat at the table is and timing. Is now the time to request a placement in Town Government or should we wait until after it is clear what the final organization chart is? We also discussed that if we have to go to Town Meeting next Spring to create a staff position for the money to be in the budget, perhaps that would be a better time to deal with where SEC fits in the town structure. Also discussed what belongs in bylaws and hope that Board of Selectmen look at the bylaw issue.

Future meetings

Rescheduled to 1st Thursday of the month at 8am

Adjourn at 9:15