



TOWN OF WELLESLEY

MASSACHUSETTS

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY COMMITTEE

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

SEC@WELLESLEYMA.GOV

Ellen Korpi, Chai
Scott Bender
Michael D'Ortenzio Jr.
Ellen Gibbs
Katy Gibson
Laura Olton
Patrick Willoughby

SEC July Meeting Minutes

Friday July 8, 2016

MLP Board Room

9:00 am

Attendees: Ellen Korpi, Michael D'Ortenzio, Jr., Katy Gibson, Marybeth Martello, Laura Olton

Absent: Scott Bender, Ellen Gibbs, Patrick Willoughby

Citizen's Speak – none

Minutes – The SEC will approve minutes from its May 2016 meeting at the SEC retreat on August 11.

Welcome to Marybeth Martello - New Sustainable Energy Administrator. Marybeth will endeavor to meet with Cheryl Daebritz, Dick Joyce, Katy Gibson, Meghan Jop, Brandon Schmitt, and Kathy Mullaney prior to the SEC retreat. Marybeth will also gain access to the SEC webpages and continue working on the Bates Cafeteria Waste Project.

Updates

- **Green Communities** - One hundred and fifty-five towns in Massachusetts have a Green Community (GC) designation. The Department of Energy Resources (DOER) is very helpful in supporting towns as they attempt to meet the GC requirements. The GC designation for Wellesley would come with an automatic grant of approximately 135-145K. The grant award is based, in part, on the town's median income. As a GC, Wellesley would be eligible to compete for grants for energy reduction initiatives. These grants can be as large as 250K. One of the GC criteria requires towns to reduce energy use by 20% in five years. Joe McDonough and the Permanent Building Committee could be important collaborators on the GC project. Wellesley's Facilities Maintenance Department could benefit from GC funding. The SEC could spearhead work toward a unified town policy on buildings. GC funds could be used to purchase more energy efficient appliances and provide financial incentives for energy efficient

purchases. Winchester established a mentoring program to assist senior citizens when these seniors had home energy audits and considered switching to natural gas. Members of the SEC will meet with Meghan Jop and Christine Narayana today (July 8) at 11:00 am to address as-of-right siting for a ground-mounted solar canopy.

- **Building Code Issues** – Katy Gibson submitted comments on the Stretch Building Code. Regardless of the outcome from this comment process, the exercise has begun to build broader awareness of the issues. Base building codes will be updated every three years to incorporate new code from the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC). The IECC recently established a new, on-line voting process. Members get a number of votes, based on their population size. Four Wellesley town employees can cast votes. Wellesley must identify its four IECC voting members by September 2016. The SEC will reach out to other Massachusetts towns to coordinate IECC-related work. Ian Finlayson is a key IECC contact at DOER.
- **MLP Solar Initiative with Non-Profits** - The solar project at Temple Beth Elohim is progressing well. This project will be precedent-setting for the Town.
- **POWER TO CHOOSE Initiative** - Regina LaRocque and Jessica Stanton, who have volunteered to coordinate this initiative, had a productive meeting with MLP and they will meet again later in July.
- **3R Working Group and Wastewise Wellesley Initiative** - This solid waste management effort will be a multi-year program. Ellen Korpi reviewed the USEPA's waste management suggestions and identified 59 actions that the Town of Wellesley could potentially take. Jeff Azano-Brown, Director of the RDF, is now creating the second draft of that list.
 - Recycling at the RDF has been decreasing. The RDF would like to increase residential recycling by 5% in the next year.
 - Other goals could involve pre-cycling and reducing the amount of waste that goes to the landfill.
 - The Department of Public Works is willing to consider waste that does not pass through the RDF.
 - Needham may accept commercial food waste from other towns.
 - Some towns have passed bylaws that charge builders a high demolition fee. If a builder can prove he/she has recycled all or most of the demolition waste, the town refunds the fee.
 - Sustainable Wellesley is Working on a "Recyclopedia."
- **Planning for July and August** – Michael D'Ortenzio, Jr. will chair the SEC Planning Offsite on August 11. The agenda for that meeting will include discussion of:
 - An overarching vision for the SEC;
 - Broad goals;
 - Three specific, tangible tasks the SEC would like to achieve in the coming year;
 - Baskets of projects and individuals who will be responsible for them;
 - The SEC administrator role; and
 - How the functioning of the SEC will change with the new Administrator.

Adjourn at 9:30

