

TOWN OF WELLESLEY



MASSACHUSETTS

CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE

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Sustainability Director: Marybeth Martello

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CAC Analyst: Janet Mosley

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Laura Olton, Chair

Susan Morris, Vice Chair

Cynthia Mahr

Ellen Korpi

Martha Collins

Fred Bungler

Lise Olney

Climate Action Committee Meeting

May 27, 2022

Remote Zoom Meeting

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 11:30 a.m. by Laura Olton. Present were Climate Action Committee (CAC) members: Laura Olton (CAC Chair), Sue Morris (CAC Vice Chair), Lise Olney, Martha Collins, Fred Bungler, Cynthia Mahr, and Ellen Korpi. Also present were Marybeth Martello (Sustainability Director), Janet Mosley (Climate Action Committee Analyst), Andrew Myers (Climate Action Committee Intern), Doug Smith (Advisory Liaison) and Mary Gard.

Citizen's Speak: None

Minutes

The committee deferred voting on the May 6 meeting minutes until the next meeting.

Announcement

Ellen introduced Lisa Wolf, the new contractor Wellesley Municipal Light Plant (MLP) hired as their Sustainability Coordinator for the next few months. Lisa is a member of the Marblehead Municipal Light Board, an MIT graduate and physics teacher.

Summer/Fall 2022

Marybeth outlined the programs and initiatives that are on the docket for the rest of the year, noting which projects would focus on community outreach and engagement and which would largely be working with Town departments and boards/committees.

Programs and initiatives discussed include:

- EV Showcase event in the fall
- Promoting new MLP energy efficiency and heat pump incentives
- Publicizing the change in zoning requirements for heat pumps
- Climate Action Plan Dashboard

- Potential partnership with Center for EcoTechnology (CET) who can provide:
 - Decarbonization audits
 - Help with community outreach/education
 - Tariff-on-bill financing mechanism for residential energy efficiency projects
- BETR Program
- State level advocacy
 - Net Zero Stretch Code
 - Climate bill
- Work with Planning Department on proposed by-law changes for Special Town Meeting
- EV Working Group
 - Fleet replacement policy
 - Municipal vehicles
 - Strategy and policy around EV charging
 - Gathering information on EV policies in other municipalities
 - Putting together a RFP for a consultant and have the consultant help strategize fleet replacement and EV infrastructure
- Idling reduction
 - Upham School can serve as a good model where parents park and pick up children from the front door
 - Members expressed concern that the new Hardy school design could result in more idling at pick up and drop off
- Food Waste and Diversion
 - High school composting program began, but more volunteers are needed to help students sort waste
 - May decide to focus on diversion of kitchen scraps instead
- Work with Assessor's Office
 - Use assessor's data to reach out to those who may soon need new HVAC equipment to educate them about heat pumps and other energy efficiency measures
 - Collect data on heat pumps installed
- Collaboration with NRC and Board of Health
 - Identify ways to work together to maximize mutual interests
- Green Communities
- Massachusetts/Wellesley Public Schools STEAM Month
 - Marybeth requested suggestions for the speaker series and potential projects

Advocacy Framework

Marybeth shared a draft of the Advocacy Spreadsheet and received feedback from committee members.

Summer Meeting Schedule

Marybeth and committee members discussed potential dates for CAC meetings over the summer and the potential return to in-person meetings if the state's remote meeting provisions are not extended beyond July 15.

Additional Business

- Throughout the meeting the Green Collaborative kept being brought up, in terms of using it as a communication channel and revamping it.

- Cynthia Mahr shared that she was working on organizing a summit of all bus contractors in the state in order to better understand the impediments to transitioning to electric fleets.

Adjourn

Fred Bunger moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:07 P.M., seconded by Martha Collins, *and the Committee voted to adjourn.*