



TOWN OF WELLESLEY

MASSACHUSETTS

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION  
REMOTE ONLINE MEETING MINUTES

July 16, 2020, 5 PM

Approved 7-30-2020

**Present:** Katie Griffith, Chair; Raina McManus, Vice Chair; Laura Robert; Jay McHale; Allison Burson; Brandon Schmitt, Director

**Guests:** Dave Hickey, Town Engineer

**Public Speak**

No one spoke on a non-agenda item.

**New and Continuing Business**

- **Climate Crisis:** Ms. McManus made the following announcement: According to a recent poll published in the Washington Post, most Americans believe the government should do more to combat climate change. On Monday, June 22, at 11:59pm, Town of Wellesley's government, through its Town Meeting, did just that by-passing Article 44, the opt-out Voluntary Renewable Energy Program, with a decisive vote of 158-48. This is a major step towards meeting our town's greenhouse gas reduction goals, and I would like to thank Town Meeting for their supportive vote, as well as citizen petitioners Phyllis Theermann, Scott Bender, and Jim Gorman of Sustainable Wellesley for their thoughtful and inclusive work in bringing forth this Article. The NRC was pleased to write a letter of support earlier this spring after their presentation to us, and it's wonderful to see this result. Thanks to all!
- **Discuss Upcoming Joint School Committee Meeting re: Hunnewell Field Projects:** Ms. Griffith reported that she was working with the School Committee
- **Clocktower Parklet proposal:** Mr. Schmitt reported that there was no additional information relating to the parklet concept at Clocktower park.
- **Liaison Reports:** Ms. Griffith provided an update on the Playing Fields Task force, including a unanimous support of the PFTF in further pursuing a possible mobile bathroom at the Track and Field. Ms. Robert reported that the last Trails Committee meeting was held outside at Town Hall.

**Director's Report**

- **Department Update:** Mr. Schmitt reported that the Youth Commission Green Shirt students have led cleanup areas and may assist with the Tree planting program using iTree to optimize Tree planting locations. Mr. Schmitt also updated the NRC about current NRC staffing.
- **Micro grid informational discussion:** Mr. Schmitt reported the micro-grid presentation Scheduled for July 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- **Town Project Update:**

**-Fields:** Mr. Hickey (Town Engineer) discussed revisions to the dugouts at the Multi-use softball fields, including adding a salt-box roof. The board discussed additional impacts to the tree, as well as the new scoreboard at the field. The board agreed that Mr. Hickey could move forward with the new roof design.

**-Bathrooms:** More information regarding the aqueduct bathroom would be forthcoming.

**-Lighting consultation:** Mr. Schmitt reported that an RFP for the Lighting consultation would be sent out shortly.

**-Morses Pond:** Mr. Schmitt reported progress on the weed harvesting at Morses Pond.

**-Town Forest Work at Emerson Rd:** Restoration work in the Town forest, a result of testing by Enbridge Gas is nearly complete.

- **Permits:** This item was not discussed.

**Urgent items not anticipated prior to 48 hours of meeting**

N/A

**Schedule Minutes/Approve Minutes**

**After a motion was made and seconded, the board voted unanimously to approve the 5/21/2020, 6/11/2020, and 6/17/2020 NRC minutes.**

**The board scheduled future meetings, including the annual retreat.**

**Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 6:05 PM

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Brandon Schmitt**