



TOWN OF WAKEFIELD

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Thursday, June 8, 2023
7:00 P.M.
Zoom Meeting

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Melissa Eusden, Chair
Robin Greenberg, Clerk
Chris Lewis
Steffin Spears
Lillian Guinther
Christina Olivieri
Thomas Boettcher, WMGLD rep
Julie Smith-Galvin, Town Council rep
Ann Waitt, DPW rep proxy
Eileen Colleran, School Comm. rep
Aliza Margolis, Student Member
William Buswell, Student Member

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Tiana Veldwisch, Vice Chair
Joe Conway, DPW rep
Fiona Recene, Student Member

----- TOPICS OF DISCUSSION -----

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m by M. Eusden.
The meeting is being recording and closed captioning is available.

Public Participation

no comment

Approval of Minutes

R. Greenberg motion approve of the May meeting distributed. C. Lewis second.
Motion passed.

Climate Action Planning (CAP) & Outreach Activities

M. Eusden and C. Lewis met to discuss the town's Greenhouse Gas (GHG) inventory and how to get information out to others. They received a proposal from a consultant to have a town Climate Action Plan (CAP) created, same company that did the town's Municipal Vulnerability Plan (MVP). Group is also seeking technical assistance from MAPC. CAPs can include a GHG target, i.e. net zero by a date, and then an implementation plan and other sustainability goals.

How to get a town CAP approved and adopted is TBD but for the MVP, the town held public meetings and public survey to receive ideas and comments, the town draft it, and then the Town Council reviewed and voted to accepted. This model might work for a CAP.

For its efforts, WMGLD is using the state's goals as their goals. They are still talking about their implementation plans, including evaluating its energy portfolio.



Melrose, Arlington, Newton and other communities have CAPs. J. Smith-Galvin will discuss idea of a town CAP with the Town Administrator.

Ideas for outreach activities were discussed. They included having an electric card showcase (Melrose held one this weekend), open houses of homes with sustainability features (PV, electric heat pumps), and lectures. Recordings of WMGLD's past presentations on their incentives and programs are available for viewing.

**Waste Reduction
Subcommittee**

M. Eusden updated the group to say that the Dolbeare School started food rescue started this week as a test for next year. It appears to be going well. Composting at the schools will be available next year. Schools are Styrofoam free now.

They are looking into a Green Business program by creating a checklist. If a business can complete the list, the business will be showcased as a Green Business.

They are still working on recycling at multi-family developments.

They have had questions about compliance with the plastic and Styrofoam by-laws. Erin talking with Steve Maio about it.

**Land Protection
Subcommittee**

J. Smith-Galvin noted that Sean Cash remains on the Open Space committee as a public member.

**Building
Efficiency
Subcommittee**

R. Greenberg's updates were that the Northeast Vocational School did not get Conservation Commission's permission for the project. The school's next step is appeal to the state DEP. She does not know the schedule.

For Wakefield Memorial High School, they are currently in Design Development. She attended the May MEP Systems/Sustainability user group meeting and there is another in June. At the meeting, she stressed the need for a facility staff person to understand how to use MEP systems at an engineering level to make sure that the systems are running efficiently and properly maintained.

T. Boettcher suggested that the town get a practice/policy on having PV (solar panels) installed when municipal building roofs are replaced. It was suggested that the Capital Planning group establish and/or enforce the policy. The town needs to take into account the MVP when looking at projects.

**Volunteer
Coordination
Subcommittee**

No members in the subcommittee

**GHG Inventory
Subcommittee**

See discussion above about Climate Action Plan.

GHG and Green Committee subcommittees will combine as they are both at the implementation stage with similar goals.

Green Communities Subcommittee	J. Smith-Galvin we received grant and the town is proceeding with purchases according to their priority list.
Community Education Subcommittee	W. Buswell shared that the tour of the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) went well. The group plans to offer the tour again. Ideas for future educational events were discussed: lectures, Black Earth facilities tour, and neighbor pollinator garden tour,
Student Member Update	No news
School Committee Liaison Update	E. Colleran shared that 8 th graders are doing their end of year civic action project. She received student emails about recycling at Galvin. They are questioning what recycling is being done at the school. M. Eusden explained that paper recycling is provided in classrooms and other recycling via toter is in the cafeteria. School community might need more education to understand what/where is accepted. M. Eusden will talk more with Tim O'Brien about it for next school year.
DPW Liaison Update	<p>A. Waitt is working on RDP (Recycling Dividends Program) grant application to the state. Last year they received \$15K and she hopes to get \$18K this year. To learn more about it, go to: https://www.mass.gov/doc/details-recycling-dividends-program/download</p> <p>DPW is getting a metal recycling dumpster at The Pit. It will be free for everyone's use, like the corrugated cardboard bin. Guidelines on what can go into bins is TBD. It might not be available for us until August 1.</p> <p>She is working on having a Christmas light collection! The idea was well received.</p>
Town Council Liaison Update	J. Smith-Galvin shared that the Town Council will soon see the town's Bike Plan. This year, the Farmers Market will have a bike valet.
WMGLD Liaison Update	<p>T. Boettcher shared that WMGLD is almost done with street light pole replacement on North Ave. New locations allow for sidewalk improvements. DPW's North Ave sidewalk project will start after 4th of July parade.</p> <p>There are currently 96 Green Choice Rates participates.</p> <p>There is a Commissioner position opening as someone has left town.</p>
MBTA Zoning Working Group	R. Greenberg and J. Smith-Galvin sit on the MBTA Zoning Working Group. The group is working on making suggestions of the location(s) and configuration of the MBTA zoning overlay district. In the next month, group plans to finalize their suggestions. Next steps include a Planning Board review, share and seek public comments in presentations to other town boards and committees like ESC, and then be on Spring Town Meeting 2024 for approval.

Next Meeting The next regular Environmental Sustainability Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 13, 2023, at 7pm.

Committee Meeting Adjournment R. Greenberg motioned to adjourn. J. Smith-Galvin second. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R. Greenberg', written over a horizontal line.

Robin Greenberg, Clerk

Attachments: -