



TOWN OF WAKEFIELD

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Thursday, December 8, 2022
7:00 P.M.
Zoom Meeting

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Melissa Eusden, Chair
Myra Sessions, Vice Chair
Robin Greenberg, Secretary
Sean Cash
Tiana Veldwisch
Dan Noren
Julie Smith-Galvin, Town Council rep
Thomas Boettcher, WMGLD rep
Ann Waitt, DPW rep proxy
William Buswell, Student Member
Aliza Margolis, Student Member
Fiona Recene, Student Member

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Chris Lewis
Joe Conway, DPW rep
Eileen Colleran, School Comm. rep

----- 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 comments
Approval of Minutes	T. Veldwisch motion for approval of November meeting minutes. J. Smith-Galvin second. Motion passed.
Welcome Student Members	Students and members introduced themselves.
ESC's role in large town infrastructure projects	M. Eusden opened a discussion on ESC's role in large town infrastructure projects. The group discussed what types of projects would be appropriate or not. ESC will be mindful of MA laws on public bodies/entities having an opinion and advocating on topics. ESC may potentially vote on support/ not support of the WMHS project at ESC's January meeting.



ESC would like to learn more about the application of the town's Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Program documents. When are they used? For what efforts? Who are using them? Why are they not used more? Could development project be required to fill out the checklists while the town evaluates their application?

At a future meeting, ESC will review the MVP documents. ESC may engage with the Town Council on how to increase implementation of them.

**Waste Reduction
Subcommittee**

M. Eusden completed hands-on education at Galvin about recycling at the school. She also received some grant funding to cover composting collection expenses at the elementary schools. She, T. Veldwisch, and Shyan Ong will talk to schools about restarting the composting and food rescue programs. The subcommittee will need to devise a compost education plan to fulfill the required education component to the WEF grant.

Tim O'Brien supports requesting funding for compost services at schools in future school budgets.

Collection and food rescue will start at the same time at the elementary schools, an early 2023 start anticipated.

Town Health Inspectors have been trained on the town Styrofoam and plastic reduction by-laws. They will look for compliance during their standard inspections. All waivers have expired.

Next newsletter from Erin Kokinda, Community & Economic Director will include a link to ESC's business survey.

**Land Protection
Subcommittee**

S. Cash attended the town's initial Open Space & Recreation Plan (OSRP) meeting a few weeks ago. They discussed the process which includes public workshops to identify issues and public surveys. They have a consultant to help. Workshops are scheduled to start in March and run through Summer 2023.

Conservation Commission is looking to set up Land Stewards efforts. S. Cash is waiting to hear from Judy Green for next steps.

**Building
Efficiency Projects**

Wakefield Memorial High School (WMHS) project's funding vote is expected in January 2023 at a Special Town Meeting and then town vote in March.

R. Greenberg will look into the MNHS schematic documents to see if kitchen has dishwasher. Having a dishwasher would allow them to use reusable trays, etc.

Northeast Vocational School project still at review of Conservation Commission. Their Superintendent attended at a recent Town Council meeting to explain why they need to use the site on top of the hill. See TC meeting notes to learn more.

	At the state level, updated building code will not be in place for January 2023. Approval is anticipated in 2023.
Volunteer Coordination	D. Noren has received subcommittee's needs on volunteers. He has a list of folks interested in being in volunteers will start to contact them.
GHG Inventory	GHG group is almost done with collection of data for the inventory. They plan to talk with neighboring communities to discuss their experiences with it.
Green Communities	J. Smith-Galvin is still waiting to hear from the state.
Community Education	<p>T. Veldwisch is working to schedule a town presentation by Gretchen Carey from Republic Services, on recycling.</p> <p>The subcommittee continues to post on social media on a variety of topics, i.e. waste reduction, WMGLD's Energy Park.</p> <p>S. Cash is working on email distribution list. He has set it up to meet public record rules.</p>
Student Member Update	No updates
School Committee Liaison Update	Liaison was not present.
DPW Member Update	<p>A. Waitt reported that that DPW is trying to set up a "pop-up" cardboard collection dumpster at Town Hall, tentatively scheduled for week between Christmas to New Years or later, weather permitting.</p> <p>DPW's Broadway building now has solar panels working. Two more buildings are looking to get PVs installed on their roofs.</p> <p>EPA is offering grants for regional efforts. Wakefield met with its regional partners to discuss ideas, i.e. expanded sidewalk compost collection, plastic baller, black plastic collection, and more regional e-waste/hazmat collection events</p> <p>This weekend, there is free access to the Pit for yard waste and cardboard collection.</p> <p>DPW received a \$15K grant which it is considering to use towards a purchase of a covered container for cardboard recycling.</p>
Town Council Liaison Update	J. Smith-Galvin shared that that Town Council approved some ARPA funding projects which include Lake Q lake clean up via stormwater improvement efforts,

pathway creation, and providing a public toilet, Wakefield mobility project/ funding rail-trail planning efforts, tree replacement, sidewalk improvements, and MWRA water truck.

Town purchased portable bike parking stands. Safe Streets is planning to offer bike valet at events like they did for Town Day.

J. Smith-Galvin is requesting funding for a town Sustainability Officer in 2024 FY town budget. The officer might be able to assist with MVP application on projects.

The Council is talking about the Tree Warden scope, discussion of when and how trees are removed, and how is public notified of removal and replacement. J. Smith-Galvin wants a public website to explain why each tree was removed. Ninety trees were removed last year but there were only three tree hearings. T. Boettcher noted that he is trying to have the WMGLD increase their notification to neighbors of tree removal. We are putting in more trees than are removed. Street trees life span is limited to around thirty years. J. Smith-Galvin will invite the Tree Warden to a future meeting to talk.

WMGLD Liaison Update

T. Boettcher shared that WMGLD hosting an Energy Efficiency Zoom training on December 15th, see their website for more info.

WMGLD is hosting an open public meeting on their proposed Electric Vehicle Meter Time-of-Use charging rates in January 11, 2023. Proposal is for off peak rate of \$0.0409/kW compared to \$0.4540/kW. Car charging phase 2 outlet would be connected to a separate meter from a house meter.

WMGLD Energy Park project was at Conservation Commission on Tuesday as part of their Article 97 approval process. They presented the potential legally protecting a portion of their land on Farm Street because of the development of the new Energy Park on Hemlock St. The Energy Park project includes the Burns Substation being converted into the Burns Park. They just decommissioned the substation. If Energy Park does not proceed, Burns could be a battery storage site. If they receive approval from ConComm, the Energy Park project will go next to the state for approval per Article 97 protocols.

Other News

The Planning Board will be holding a series of public sessions regarding the state mandate to institute a MBTA Multifamily Overlay District. This first presentation is December 13th.

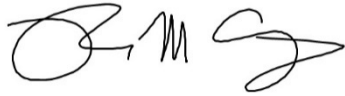
Next Meeting

The next regular Environmental Sustainability Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 12, 2023, at 7pm.

Committee Meeting Adjournment

J. Smith-Galvin motioned to adjoin. S. Cash second. Meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Robin Greenberg, Secretary

Attachments: -