



TOWN OF WAKEFIELD

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Thursday, March 11, 2021
7:00 P.M.
Zoom Meeting

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Rob Darnell, Chair
Robin Greenberg, Recording Secretary
Myra Sessions
Tom Boettcher, WMGLD rep
Julie Smith-Galvin, Town Council rep
Suzy Veilleux, School Committee rep
Mary Hajjar, Vice Chair
Joe Conway, DPW rep (voting rep)
Uma Gerweck, Student Liaison
Nick Pilleri, Student Liaison
Sophie Brown, Student Liaison

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Ann Waitt, DPW rep
Abby Lane, Student Liaison

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

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m by R. Darnell.

Public Participation

Carol Zoubek is interested in Earth Day potential activities. Sustainable Wakefield does not have anything planned it yet.
Interface Power and Light is also interested.
Theodore Noell, a candidate for the Planning Board, joined the meeting to introduce himself. He is looking forward to potential connection of the ESC, Planning, and Visioning efforts. He is excited to hear the recent Town Councils discussion on the Stretch Code.

WPS Update

S. Veilleux shared that at a February School Facility meeting, Danielle Collins presented the budget impact by the new by-law on use of food service containers and her concerns about meeting the by-law in the near future. Current COVID rules requires food distribution to be done, pre-packaged with lids creating more packaging. Danielle is working on a draft memo describing her efforts done to date to meet the by-law intent and request a one-year waiver.

Andy hopes that his in-school recycling program can return when allowed per safe food service practices. S. Veilleux is talking with the Superintendent on the potential for the food rescue program's ability to return as schools start serving meals in-school this spring, pending COVID regulations.

Approval of Minutes

J. Smith-Galvin motioned for approval and M. Session second the approval of the January 14, and February 11, 2021 meetings. Meetings were approved.



ESC Membership	<p>R. Greenberg motion for approval and J. Smith-Galvin second the motion to add three members of three-year terms. One seat would initial for a two-year term to create scattered term expirations on the committee. By scattering the end of term, there will be the potential for continuity of members between terms. By added members, it gives the committee more depth and more voices part ESC. The motion was approved. R. Darnell will submit request to the Town Council (TC) for their review and approval. Applicants are approved by the TC but ESC will be able to offer comments and recommendations.</p>
Trash Reduction	<p>R. Darnell and J. Smith-Galvin shared that town will now have a town preferred curb side compost vendor, Black Earth. To promote the program, 200 free starter kits are available. The town estimates that a family generates an average of 12 lbs per compost per week.</p> <p>With the new recycling contractor contract, a dumpster is being added at the pit for large cardboard collection. Bi-weekly curbside recycling will remain.</p> <p>The Town is looking to add \$20/bulk pick up charge, which helps town earn credits towards state grants.</p>
Green Communities Act (GCA)	<p>J. Smith-Galvin shared at Monday's Town Council meeting, she presented the Stretch Code, one of 5 requirements of GCA, and recommended that the TC submit the stretch code by-law to Town Meeting. The council will continue discussion of adding the Stretch Code at their March 22nd meeting. J. Smith-Galvin plans to bring state DEP GCA advisor, R. Darnell, and building inspector to present and address questions.</p>
Land Protection	<p>No update</p>
Safe Streets Group	<p>J. Smith-Galvin reported at their February meeting, they are discussing a Earth Day event, maybe a bike safety event.</p>
Committee Collaborations	<p>No update</p>
ESC Social Media	<p>J Smith-Galvin shared that Jenn McDonald has notified town groups that Facebook has amended some policy rules. If a town entity has social media account, it needs to post town's social media policy. Next steps, Jenn is organizing a training with groups with current accounts to talk about practices and policies. She also noted that a town employee needs to have Administrator access to the account. N. Pilleri, U. Gerweck, S. Brown, and M. Sessions are interested in attending the training. Town is looking into hiring archiving service to achieve content posted on town account in effort to meet intent of Open Meeting rules.</p>
Earth Day Events	<p>M. Sessions will reach out to town groups and organizations in order to see if a list of town Earth Day events can be generated. Earth Day may occur on April 22nd or</p>

observed on other days. The 'official' theme of Earth Day 2021 is "Restore Our Earth™". Additional ideas on how to celebrate Earth Day was discussed in the committee.

**Student Member
comments**

No comments

**Town Council
Update**

J. Smith-Galvin, shared that the TC has had recent talks about community boating on Lake Quannapowitt. They are going to post a town RFP for providing boating services. Public comment period will be available after bids are received.

WMGLD Update

T. Boettcher is putting together a report on the use of public and resident EV chargers which will be presented at a future Town Council meeting. Resident chargers are available for free to residents provided that residents agreed to allow WMGLD to control uses when electrical use is highest. A draft of the report, "Electric Vehicles Municipal Public Chargers 2020 Report" is available on WMGLD's website, starting on page 42 of the document, <http://wmgld.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/March-2021-Board-Book-complete.pdf>

WMGLD is in the process of taking an inventory of municipal building energy use as part of GCA requirements.

WMGLD continues to provide solar rebates. They are funded only by the utility department since there is no state funding at the moment.

DPW Update

No comments

**Clean Lake
Committee
Update**

No recent meetings

Library Events

Beebe Library is hosting a climate change series, Commit to Your Community- Advocate for Change. Their next discussion is March 30th.
<https://wakefieldlibrary.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/commit-to-your-community-book-discussion-impact/>

**ESC
Accomplishments
Summary**

M. Session shared her drafted a letter describing ESC accomplishments. The letter will be sent to the Item and shared on social media. The committee offered comments and suggestions.

**By-law
compliance**

J. Smith-Galvin had meetings with the Chamber of Commerce, local businesses, and others to discuss outreach on by-laws to businesses. They are talking about potential for bulk buying.

Next Meetings

The next regular Environmental Sustainability Committee meeting is scheduled to be Thursday, April 8, 2021 at 7pm. There will be a special meeting on March 25th to discuss Earth Day events.

**Committee
Meeting
Adjournment**

J. Smith-Galvin motion to adjourn. M. Session second. R. Darnell performed roll call for approve to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Robin Greenberg, Secretary

Attachments: -