



# TOWN OF WAKEFIELD

## ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Thursday, November 18, 2021  
7:00 P.M.  
Zoom Meeting

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Myra Sessions, Chair  
Robin Greenberg, Secretary  
Mary Hajjar  
Sean Cash  
Dan Noren  
Julie Smith-Galvin, Town Council rep  
Tom Boettcher, WMGLD rep  
Ann Waitt, DPW alternate rep  
Melissa Eusden  
Nick Pilleri, Student Liaison  
Sophie Brown, Student Liaison  
Uma Gerweck, Youth Council rep  
Addie Festel, Student Liaison

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:**  
Rob Darnell, Vice Chair  
Joe Conway, DPW rep  
Suzy Veilleux, School Committee rep  
Abby Lane, Student Liaison

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

<b>Call to Order</b>	The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m by M. Session. The meeting is being recording and closed captioning is available.
<b>Public Participation</b>	Carol Zoubek is collecting pumpkins for a community food garden compost. She is interest on reduction of monocrops and news from COP26.
<b>Approval of Minutes</b>	R. Greenberg motioned to approve the October meeting notes per T. Boettcher's amendments. T. Boettcher second. Motion passed.
<b>COP26 Presentation</b>	<p>S. Cash shared his recent experience attending the second week of UN's Conference of the Parties (COP) 26 at Glasgow as part of the Tufts University observer delegation. The next COP is in 2022 in Cairo, Egypt.</p> <p>Outcomes of the conference included agreeing to new carbon cuts to prevent global warming but they are not said to be enough to prevent 1.5°C global warming and some countries pledged to quit burning coal.</p> <p>Suggestions for local action include modifying building standards, increasing sustainable commuting, increase sustainable energy access, supporting adaptation projects, and supporting local infrastructure for electrification. Local infrastructure for electrifications might have largest impact.</p>



J. Smith-Galvin asked Sean if he would offer to share his experience at a Library presentation.

**Land Preservation** M. Hajjar and S. Cash are meeting to create an action plan and develop goals for land preservation.

**Waste Reduction** M. Eusden met with Tim O'Brien, school facility director, A. Waitt, Andy Bray, and R. Darnell to talk about opportunities for recycling at Galvin MS. Collection barrels are coming. A. Waitt is requesting the recycling company to offer education to the school.

Compost collection at the food pantry/America's Civic Center has been successful. DPW paid for a one-year contract. DPW is now looking to collect cardboard at the building.

Plastic & polystyrene bylaw – M. Eusden talked with Erin Kokinda, Wakefield economic director, to start a program with businesses to assist with purchase of approved products. No waivers have been requested yet from businesses for the bylaws.

The next step for the school food rescue program is to talk with HS school administration. R. Greenberg suggested that students talk to the school about the program and suggest that accommodations for the program be included in the future high school.

Shyan Ong shared at Galvin green club met with her and they are going to try start a food rescue program. For January, they want to collect from the 5<sup>th</sup> grade and then expand the program to upper grades.

**Community Engagement & Communications** The annual pumpkin collection for compost at the school was successful.

S. Brown reported that the Warrior Clean Up in partnership with the Town is scheduled this Sunday has over 100 volunteers signed up and they have local sponsors.

S. Brown set up display at library to promote activities.

Youth Council's Veteran's Day clean up event had over 100 students collecting over 263 pounds of trash.

Starting in November 2021, MA law related to disposal of mattresses and textiles goes into enforcement. Town is seeking more information on options on where to send mattresses and textiles. Simple Recycling collection has had reduced quantity of collection as their practices and policies changed.

The school is working on where to locate the Trex bench.

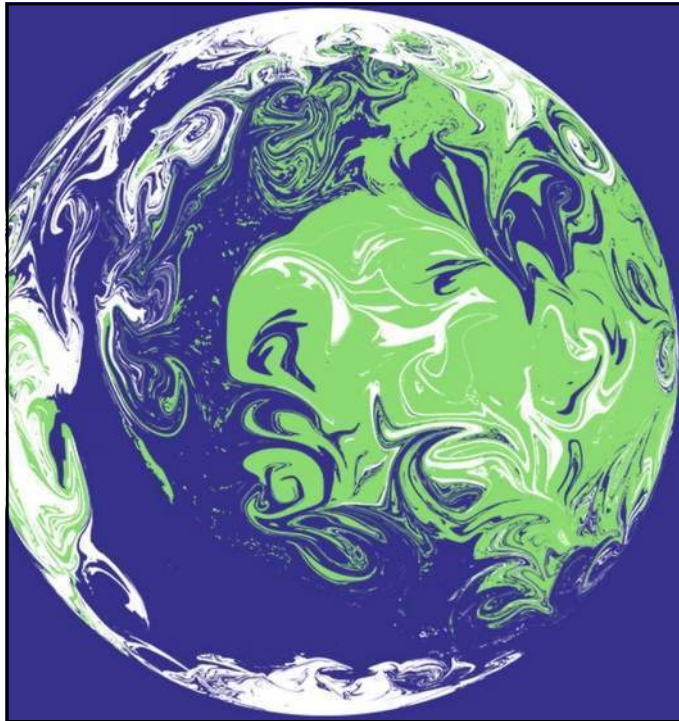
<b>Green Community Application</b>	Town Council passed the fleet policy. Energy reduction plan is still in progress.
<b>WMHS Building Project</b>	<p>Three of the four visioning sessions have occurred and one general community meeting. Public opinion is always accepted available via project website, <a href="https://wakefieldmhsproject.com">https://wakefieldmhsproject.com</a>. J. Smith-Galvin suggested ESC write letter on program requests, i.e food rescue space. M. Sessions and D. Noren will work on letter.</p> <p>ESC will consider drafting a letter of support on WMGLD's suggestions made for the Northeast Metro Tech Building project.</p>
<b>Student Members</b>	WMHS recycling club is excited about recycling growth and potential for composting at the school.
<b>School Committee</b>	No news
<b>Town Council update</b>	<p>At Board of Health meeting, the board talked about asking the state for full health study on the Peabody gas plant being developed.</p> <p>J. Smith Galvin has asked Steve Maio to sign a letter to the Secretary of Energy to support the net zero stretch code option.</p>
<b>WMGLD</b>	<p>WMGLD will discuss the fleet policy at their next board meeting.</p> <p>The commissioners are looking to town by-law codify to electrified all new developments.</p>
<b>DPW</b>	DPW had a fall compost and rain barrel sale. They are planning another sale in the spring. There are twenty free Black Earth compost starter kits available.
<b>Safe Streets</b>	Safe Street is getting reorganized and hope to organize events for the spring.
<b>Planning Board</b>	The Planning Board, Master Plan subcommittee, is looking at updating the town Master Plan. The subcommittee is working with Metropolitan Planning Organization.
<b>Next Meetings</b>	The next regular Environmental Sustainability Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 9, at 7pm.
<b>Committee Meeting Adjournment</b>	R. Greenberg motioned to adjoin. J. Smith-Galvin second. Meeting adjourned at 8:33pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Robin Greenberg, Secretary

Attachments: S. Cash COP26 presentation



## COP26 Reflections and Opportunities for Local Action

Sean B. Cash

Town of Wakefield Environmental  
Sustainability Committee

November 18, 2021

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## What is COP26?



**UNFCCC** – United Nations  
Framework Convention on  
Climate Change

**COP** – Conference of the Parties  
– meeting of the parties to the  
climate change convention

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## COP26 – outcomes

Agreed to new cuts – but not enough to stick to 1.5C warming

“Come back next year” to work toward 1.5C

Specific mention of coal, and more than 40 countries pledged to quit coal

US did not but promised to phase out new subsidies by next year

Some new offers of funding to lower-income countries for investment (not enough)

Side agreements (such as \$8.5bn South Africa coal phase-out financing deal)

China/US methane reduction pledge

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## What can municipalities do?



Building standards

Sustainable commuting

Sustainable energy access

Adaptation projects

Local infrastructure for electrification

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