



TOWN OF WAKEFIELD

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Thursday, September 08, 2022

7:00 P.M.

Zoom Meeting

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Melissa Eusden, Chair
Myra Sessions, Vice Chair
Robin Greenberg, Secretary
Sean Cash
Dan Noren
Tiana Veldwisch
Chris Lewis
Thomas Boettcher, WMGLD rep
Julie Smith-Galvin, Town Council rep

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Eileen Colleran, School Comm. rep
Ann Waitt, DPW rep proxy
Joe Conway, DPW 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.

Approval of July & August Minutes

J. Smith-Galvin motioned to approve the July and August minutes with D. Noren second. Vote passed.

Updates to ESC Policy on Volunteer Assistance

M. Eusden reviewed the committee's Policies and Procedures with Town Counselor in reference to volunteers and amended it per his suggestion. D. Noren motioned to approve with M. Session second. Vote passed.

Before the next meeting, D. Noren will create a general description about the volunteer program and a sign-up sheet for volunteers for future tabling events.

ESC Tabling at Farmers Market & Town Day

ESC will have a table at the Farmers Market on October 1st from 9am-1pm and Town Day on October 8th from 1-4pm. For the events, Committee discussed posters for the table, sign-up sheet for solicitation for volunteers, and maybe generate feedback on land use. J. Smith-Galvin offered easels for the events if needed. D. Noren offered to print and mount the posters.

M. Eusden will talk with Farmers Market manager on supply of tent, table, and chairs for Farmers Market.

J. Smith-Galvin suggested that at Town Day, we promote the trash, recycling, and compost. Compost would take Town's compost bin should be made available. ESC will see if Black Earth can attend Town Day.



ESC will also look to participate in Wakefield 101 on October 20th from 6 to 7:30pm at the Americal.

ESC member volunteers are needed to attend all events.

**ESC Student
Member
Solicitation**

M. Session will update the previous solicitation for student member(s) and send to Sherri Dalton for review and discuss the timing of posting. ESC will review applications, provide comments, and appointment(s) will be made by Town Councilors.

**Review of ESC
Subcommittees**

It was noted that all Zoom recordings from ESC and subcommittees meetings are posted on ESC page on the town website and WCAT pages.

**Waste Reduction
Subcommittee**

M. Eusden and T. Veldwisch met last week at the Beebe Library to establish short- and long-term goals for the subcommittee which included short term goal to expand compliance with the plastic by-law, expand recycling at the Galvin to include paper, expand composting opportunities at schools, survey local businesses via Chamber of Commerce, and support and encourage and expand recycling at large residential buildings. M. Eusden reached out to Republic Services to see if they would attend an ESC meeting and give a presentation at the Galvin School.

M. Eusden shared that the town hired two new Health Inspectors. They will take over plastic and polystyrene by-laws compliance. M. Eusden and J. Smith-Galvin plan to meet them.

**Land Protection
Subcommittee**

S. Cash and M. Sessions met remotely with Judy Green, ConComm Secretary. The committee:

- Want to look to neighboring towns on how they did trail development.
- Brainstorm idea for volunteers tasks: trail maintenance like litter, trim, and notify DPW of needs
- Conduct public outreach on where are public lands, what is not okay (i.e. at Crystal Lake)
- Reaching out to Conservation Commission and Planning Committee.
- Expand of trail mapping of town trails, i.e. via apps like Alltrails
- Provide education on town property that it being remediated.
- Provide education on sustainable landscapes including discussion on pollinators and how to support them, and discussion on selection of street trees species and benefits of trees

Their next meeting is in October at the Beebe Library with Zoom remote access.

School Efficiency

R. Greenberg shared that Northeast Metro Tech School (NEMT) submitted Design Development (DD) submission to the state with a 200+ kW photo voltaic (PV) array (owned by WMGLD as a PPE within the energy park), going electric heating and cooling, and projected to get 53+ points (LEED Silver). J. Smith-Galvin shared that the school is looking into kitchen composting.

Wakefield Memorial High School (WMHS) project is currently in Schematic Design (SD) phase. The school is being designed to use 1/3 less energy than existing school. The project's features include:

- Tracking over 58 points (LEED Silver)
- Design to have electric heating and cooling
- 250+ kW PV array (same arrangement as NEMT)
- Design with Passive House strategies which focuses on detail and construction of the building envelope

T. Boettcher also shared that the town schools' diesel generators will be replaced with WMGLD natural gas generator. The next step for energy park is to receive easement from the town. WMGLD is requesting it at the Fall 2022 Town Meeting. If the request passes, a MOI will be signed between WMGLD and schools to create the energy park.

**Volunteer
Coordination**

See update above.

GHG Inventory

C. Lewis said subcommittee's schedule for meeting pending. They will first look into which method they want to use in order to do the inventory.

**Green
Communities**

J. Smith-Galvin shared that the town submitted the Green Communities application a few weeks ago. Jenn Kelley is addressing follow up questions and comments by state.

**Community
Education**

T. Veldwisch and S. Cash met to talk about their goals which include social media goals of 8-10 posts per month. T. Veldwisch requested ideas on posts including time sensitive and general ideas. T. Veldwisch is looking to add more resources on ESC page on the town website. She is meeting with Jenn MacDonald, town communication director.

**Student Member
Update
School
Committee
Liaison Update**

ESC is awaiting appointment(s) of students.

Eileen Collieran has been appointed as liaison to ESC.

**DPW Member
Update**

Member not available

**Town Council
Liaison Update**

J. Smith-Galvin has asked town to buy a water truck like the one by MWRA so they can supply water at town event in an effort to reduce single-use water bottles.

**WMGLD Liaison
Update**

T. Boettcher shared that:

- At their next meeting, they are reviewing their rebate program.
- Battery lawn equipment rebate has been successful.

- They are looking into an ARAP fund request to help low efficiencies improvements in low-income housing.
- They are building another EV charging station at the head of the lake.
- He noted that there is a time of use rate differences on EV charging.
- They are leading the way in town on purchase of EV vehicles. They ordered an EV truck and hybrid bucket truck.
- In front of the cemetery, they are moving poles for bike lane development.
- Their building and community solar projects are delayed because supply chain issues but they are expected to be installed this year. Their total capacity is over 300 kW.
- 2nd DPW solar array came online in July. The funding for it came from state grant with WMGLD matching grants. The two DPW installation are more than 40+ kW.

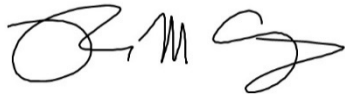
Next Meeting

The next regular Environmental Sustainability Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 13, at 7pm.

Committee Meeting Adjournment

S. Cash motioned to adjourn. J. Smith-Galvin second. Meeting adjourned at 8:51 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Robin Greenberg, Secretary

Attachments: -