

# Board Members

Carey Bergeron, Chair

Lawrence Ellsworth, Member

Alex Siekierski, Member

Kristen Rice, Member

Jason Reposa, Member

Martin Dietrich, Member

David Travalini, Member

Stephanie Carlisle, DPW Staff Contact

John Foresto, Bd Slctmn Liaison

Bob Tucker, PEDB Liaison

 Town of Medway

 Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Energy and Sustainability Committee

 **May 19, 2021**

Pursuant to Governor Baker’s March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, and the Governor’s Orders imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, no in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted at this meeting. Committee members may be participating remotely. For public meetings, access via Microsoft Teams is provided for the required opportunity for public participation.

**Members present:**  Martin Dietrich, David Travalini, Larry Ellsworth, Jason Reposa, Stephanie Carlisle and Tracy Rozak, Recording Secretary.

 \* Carey Bergeron arrived at 7:30pm.

**Absent:**  Alex Siekierski

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**Call to Order**

***Larry called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm.***

**Public Comments**

There were none.

**Recycling and Donation Event with Green Team Junk Removal**

Stephanie has been talking with Green Team Junk Removal and Habitat for Humanity. They are promoting their donation event scheduled for Saturday June 5th. The MESC will put two advertisements in the Milford Daily News and will also put an ad in the Millis/Medway news. The event is also on the MESC webpage. People can drop off all electronics except televisions, any wooden furniture but not upholstered furniture. Stephanie stated the MESC budget only has $300 to spend and the ads will cost $400. Stephanie will be using grant money to pay for the advertisements not the MESC money. Larry suggested putting an ad in the Country Gazette as well. It might be a good idea to get email addresses from the people who drop of items so MESC could contact them about future events. Stephanie mentioned that Medway recycling program is going very well. Carey asked if our recycling rate is going up.

**Update and Budget Discussion**

Kristen made a list of possible items to purchase and can discuss at the next meeting.

**Draft Tree Preservation Bylaw discussion**

Marty had a question about what this really means for a builder. What do they need to do and how many trees will they have to replace? Dave stated there are other towns that have this bylaw in place. The bylaw proposes that you don’t cut trees down it the setback area which is a 15-20 foot area. You can’t put a house in the set back area so it should not have a big effect on builders. Marty is concerned that it will make it difficult for the homeowner for insurance reasons. Their insurance company may want the homeowner to take down a tree because it is a danger to the house. He doesn’t want to make it really difficult for developers to build in Medway. He also wants to make sure they provide examples to the builders that make sense. Marty also wants to ensure that the tree fund money is going to replace trees. Larry stated we have to be able to track how the money is spent. Dave mentioned the possibility of having a native tree giveaway in the fall as a way to encourage people to plant trees in their yard.

Stephanie asked if Dave spoke to the tree warden to get his insight. Dave stated the Conservation Commission will be the enforcing agency. He said every single building permit goes through Conservation. Marty thinks it should be the Tree Wardens job to monitor tree activity. Stephanie stated the Tree Warden also oversees the Parks Department and it may be a challenge to add this task on top of existing workload.. The Tree Warden position as it is takes up a significant amount of time, so the town may need to make it a full time position in order to keep up with enforcement.Stephanie asked about the setbacks, what if you have a very large parcel, can they cut everything in the middle out? How can we ensure the newly planted trees survive?

Dave stated the money will go into a Tree Fund that is totally separate from the General fund or the Conservation fund but the State determines what they can use the money on. They may say it can pay for a Tree Wardens salary or something else. Marty stated we should tell the state specifically what we want to use the money on (planting trees). Dave stated we don’t get a say in that, it is up to the Attorney General. Dave stated the tree bylaw is still in draft form and there is still time to flush it out.

**Discussion of Solar Array opportunities**

Dave stated the company he works for was approached by a company called Ameresco that wants to put a solar array over two of their parking lots. The company will give them a stipend and also the opportunity to buy the solar panels after a period of time. Marty stated it’s a great idea and could be an incentive for other business owners to do the same. The town also gets something out of it. Stephanie will call Tom at the town of Westwood to ask about this. It might be a could idea to have Ameresco come to one of their MESC meetings to explain all the details of their program

**Report from the Chair**

**Master Plan Committee Update**

Carey stated she met with Jen and went over the mission and goals of the MESC. Currently there is not a sustainability section in the Master Plan but down the road they could have their own section in it. Carey stated she also sat in on the Natural Resources Focus Group. She stated they asked a lot of good questions. She is also going to be on the Transportation Focus Group. Carey stated Susy asked if the committee members would sign up for the community forum on May 24th.  You have to preregister for the forum. Dave mentioned all future MESC meetings have to be in person moving forward.

**Report from Subcommittees**

**Scholarship**

Marty got a rubric from the scholarship contact at the school and he is working on that.

**Report from Staff Contact**

**EV Charging Station at Choate and Oakland Park via PAC grant**

Stephanie stated they received the grant award for $32,000 for charging stations at Oakland and Choate Park. She will be presenting this at the next Select Board meeting.

Dave mentioned that Volta received approval to put advertising on the charging displays. We assume Shaw’s would have to approve the content that is put on the signs.

**Plastic Bag reminder**

Stephanie stated Cumberland Farms is now using paper bags. Two other businesses are finishing up their supply of plastic bags then will start using paper bags after June 2, 2021.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes: April 21, 2021**

***Dave made a motion to approve the April 21, 2021 meeting minutes as amended. Marty seconded the motion and Marty, Kristen, Dave, and Carey all stated aye they were in favor and the minutes were approved.***

**Adjourn**

***Larry made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:07 pm. Dave seconded the motion and Marty, Kristen, Dave, Larry, Jason and Carey all stated aye they were in favor and the meeting was adjourned.***

Respectfully submitted by,

Tracy Rozak

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| **Upcoming Medway Energy & Sustainability Committee Meetings***Meetings are typically the third Wednesday of the month*June 16, 2021 |