Carey Bergeron, Chair

Lawrence Ellsworth, Member

Alex Siekierski, Member

Kristen Rice, Member

Jason Raposa, Member

John Foresto, Bd Slctmn

Stephanie Carlisle, Staff Contact



**Energy and Sustainability Committee**

**May 20, 2020**

**7:00 PM**

**Microsoft Teams Meeting**

**Members present:** Carey Bergeron, Larry Ellsworth, Kristen Rice, Jason Reposa, Stephanie Carlisle

**Also present:** Martin Dietrich

**Absent:** Alex Siekierski

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* **Call to Order - *Carey called the meeting to order at 7:11pm.***
* **Public Comments**
  + Martin Dietrich expressed his interest in becoming a member of the MESC. He and his family have been active members in the community. Martin used to be a member of the Medway Finance Committee, is an active volunteer at the Medway Food Pantry, one son is an Eagle Scout, and his other son is on his way to becoming an Eagle Scout. He believes his interests in long term environmental sustainability for the Town is a good fit for the MESC. Carey Bergeron and Larry Ellsworth provided a background of the committee and how it has evolved from a primary focus on energy to a broader sustainability centered mission. Carey instructed Martin to reach out to John Foresto or another Selectman to get on a meeting agenda to become a formal member.
* **Report from the Chair** 
  + No items to report on currently.
* **Report from Staff Contact**
  + Participating in the regional Municipal Vulnerability Program (MVP) Action grant project: Building Resilience Across the Charles River Watershed. The Town of Natick is the lead applicant in partnership with the Charles River Watershed Association. This regional project derived from Medway’s participation in the Charles River Climate Compact. Currently, this project is in the application phase.
  + Submitted new Green Communities Competitive Grant Application for $152,000 for energy conservation measures at Medway High School and Medway Middle School.
  + New Solid Waste and Recycling educational material to be released over the next month.
  + Stormwater outfall monitoring and testing.
  + Beginning to wrap up year 2 of the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit.
* **Report from Subcommittees**
  + Recycling-Reusing-Reducing – Kristen, Jason
* Kristen and Jason met throughout the previous month and created a list of topics and investigated an outreach format. Their focus has been on textile recycling and composting. Kristen will send the committee what they have been working on.
* Carey and Larry participated on a call with the Town Administrator, Selectman Trindade, DPW Director and DPW Deputy Director, Keith Lawrence, and Stephanie Carlisle regarding the upcoming changes as the Town transitions from Waste Management to Lawrence Waste Services. They made an outreach flyer, but decided not to release it at this time to keep consistent with the Town’s messaging.
* Larry said that the recycling program is more like a “Diversion Process” – getting people to use other methods to dispose of their items instead of just putting them in the trash. The group agreed with this language.
* Energy –Larry, Carey
* Larry stated that the Town is on standby for the Community Choice Aggregation program. The intent is to help the rate payers save money and increase the use of energy from renewable sources.
* **New Business** 
  + Larry inquired about the status of the plastic bag ban that is scheduled to begin soon.
  + Discussion about reusable bags at Food Pantry. Kristen inquired about donating reusable bags to the Food pantry.
  + Discussion about creating a newsletter to be distributed to those interested.
  + Discussion about inviting other committee members to the monthly meeting including the school committee members and democratic committee members.
* **Action Items**
  + Ask Communications Director to attend the June meeting.
* **Next Meeting**
  + Review subcommittee topics and add anything that’s missing
  + Discuss going in front of the BoS with an updated committee agenda/ charter by June 2020
* **Adjourn – *Carey made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:05pm. Larry seconded the motion and it was voted to approve 3-0-0.***