# Board Members

Carey Bergeron, Chair

Lawrence Ellsworth, Member

Alex Siekierski, Member

Kristen Rice, Member

Jason Reposa, Member

Martin Dietrich, Member

Stephanie Carlisle, DPW Staff Contact

John Foresto, Bd Slctmn Liaison

Bob Tucker, PEDB Liaison

**Energy and Sustainability Committee Meeting**

**October 21, 2020**

 **7:00 PM**

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:** Carey Bergeron, Kristen Rice, Jason Reposa, Martin Dietrich, David Travalini, Larry Ellsworth, Stephanie Carlisle and Tracy Rozak, Recording Secretary. **Absent:** Alex Siekierski

* **Call to Order**

***Carey Bergeron called the meeting to order at 7:08 pm.***

**Public Comments**

# Tracy Stewart was also present for the meeting. Tracy stated she sent over a 17 page document on turf disposal for everyone to review. The problem is there are no recycling programs for this material in the USA. Medway is due to replace their turf fields in 2024. She doesn’t think the routine maintenance is being kept up. G Max testing is supposed to be done twice per year. Field Turf started a turf take back program, but it went away quietly. They are now finding quarries full of it in Washington State and finding companies using it for erosion controls. There is not a viable solution for disposal and there are major costs for recycling.

# Dave stated two of the fields are not under the Conservation Commissions jurisdiction. He doesn’t think the crumb rubber argument will get far but the financial argument might make a better case. Larry asked if there have been any studies that looked at the cost life cycle and benefit analysis of grass turf versus synthetic turf; preparation, installation, maintenance, disposal etc. Tracy stated she does have some information that she can forward to the group but there are not any hard numbers. The town buys their maintenance materials in bulk and don’t know how much of that and labor hours are spent on just the turf fields. Larry mentioned that some people want to rent out our fields to generate money towards replacing the fields. Tracy doesn’t think they generate as much money as they were expected to. Tracy stated there is a Face book page called Safe Healthy Playing Fields that is a good place to get more information and get updates. As an advisory committee we can make this a sustainability argument as natural grass is more environmentally sustainable than a turf field.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**

**June 2020 Meeting Minutes**

***Kristen made a motion to approve the June meeting minutes as submitted. Larry seconded the motion and all were in favor (Dave Travalini abstained from the vote.)***

**August 2020 Meeting Minutes**

***Kristen made a motion to approve the August meeting minutes as submitted. Martin seconded the motion and all were in favor. (Dave Travalini abstained from the vote.)***

**September 2020 Meeting Minutes**

***Kristen made a motion to approve the September meeting minutes as submitted. Jason seconded the motion and all were in favor.***

**Volta Charging Station at Shaws**

Stephanie stated she just received an email from Volta and they stated they are not collecting data on users or people walking by. The committee decided to write a letter of support for Volta. Carey will draft the letter of support.

***Larry made a motion to have Cary write a letter of support to Volta/ Shaws to support the charging stations as proposed. Dave Travalini seconded the motion and all were in favor.***

**Plastic Bag Reduction Bylaw – comments from Shaws**

Stephanie stated she told them they have until January 27th to comply. Shaws stated there are only two companies that make paper bags and they are very expensive and hard to get a supply of them. Jason stated we should see if there are actually more than two paper bag suppliers. People can bring in their own reusable bags, but the stores policy does not allow the employees to handle the reusable bags, so the customers have to bag themselves and they complain about that. Some stores give a small percentage off your bill if you bring and bag your own groceries. Shaws needs to figure out a solution to this problem as all the other businesses in town have complied with the ban.

**Black Earth**

Stephanie stated we cannot support one private business because of the procurement rules but we can provide residents with a list of businesses that divert trash. We could post the list on social media and highlight Black Earth. Kristen will put together a blurb about composting a create a list of companies and can share that on Google Documents.

**Mi-Box**

No updates at this time. Kristen and Marty put together a power point for the town. They will work on completing it.

**Report from the Chair**

**Report from Subcommittees**

Dave Travalini has a meeting with Zoning and Planning scheduled for November 2nd to talk about tree bylaws.

**Adjourn**

***Carey made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 pm. Larry seconded the motion and all were in favor.***

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Action Items** | **Assigned To** | **Deadline** | **Status** |
| Write letter of support for Volta | Carey | By the November meeting |  |
| Compile a list of trash diversion companies | Kristen | By the November meeting |  |
|  Stephanie will add Volta to the next meeting agenda. Special meeting might be need | Stephanie |  October 21, 2020 completed | Completed |
| Carey will set up a meeting with Michael Boynton by the next meeting to discuss their plans. |  Carey |  October 21, 2020 in progress | In progress |
| Martin will set up a meeting with Carey and Kristen to work on the priorities to discuss with Michael Boynton. |  Martin |  October 21, 2020 in progress | In progress |
| Carey will put together a list of social media blurbs that other members can add to that Sandy can use for social media. |  Carey |  October 21, 2020 in progress | In progress |
| Carey will compile the list of cell phone numbers. |  Carey | October 21, 2020 Completed | Completed |

Respectfully submitted by,

Tracy Rozak

**Upcoming Medway Energy & Sustainability Committee Meetings**

*Meetings are typically the third Wednesday of the month*

November 18, 2020 – to be held at the Thayer House