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# 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

##  Town of Medway

### Commonwealth of Massachusetts

 **August 5, 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. Please use this link to access the meeting: [Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3Ameeting_ZmU2MzdhMzMtZjIwOS00OTMxLWIzMTktNzQ0ZWYzNWNjMTJl%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%224952c1e3-a698-42bd-a50a-1b06d5241e32%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%226dbc8625-7650-47c6-a71e-8dad4f4d1691%22%7d).

# **Members present:** Carey Bergeron, Lawrence Ellsworth, Kristen Rice, Stephanie Carlisle, Jason Reposa, Martin Dietrich, Tracy Rozak, Recording Secretary

**Also present:** David Travalini and Tracy Stewart

# **Absent:** Alex Siekierski

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**Call to Order**

Carey Bergeron called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

**Public Comments/ Guest Speakers**

Larry stated he invited Tracy Stewart to the meeting. Tracy is a long time town resident and very active in the community. Tracy stated her background is in Project Management and she is very interested in sustainability about plastics in Medway and how this committee could get involved. She has been involved with the synthetic turf issue in town. She has become knowledgeable about recycling products such as sneakers and tires going into athletic fields. There is a Plastics Act trying to be passed now and more responsibility will go to the plastics producers. Medway will need to know more about this and the ESC may be able to help with this. There is a problem with companies not following through with their recycling protocols and not properly disposing of materials. Synthetic turf contains UV inhibitors so it does not break down. The abrasions from turf burn are also a concern and further testing needs to be done.

Dave stated he has been arguing against turf fields as well and the census shows much fewer kids in Medway as the population ages so fewer fields are needed. Marty stated they just rent the fields out to other towns and make money.

**Report from the Chair**

Carey reminded Dave Travalini that he said he would join the committee if we got two new members and they have. Dave said he would be willing to become a member. Carey will send an email to Allison to get him on the agenda for the next Selectmen’s meeting.

**Report from Subcommittees**

Stephanie stated Allison told her the ESC does not have a budget for this year. Marty checked the budget and stated it says we have a budget of $300.

Jason asked how he should go about getting agenda items to Carey for meetings. Carey stated he can email her or Stephanie any agenda topics. Jason stated his friend Fred owns a company can send them to her or Stephanie. Jason stated his friend owns a company called Green Team Disposal/Removal. They are partnered with a company called My Box. They are providing a big container in Holliston where people are bringing gently used items that will get diverted to other places. This box would be available for a few weeks several times per year. There is not a cost for the disposal but there might be a minimal fee for the town to help with shipping costs. Basically, instead of everyone going to donate items to different places, people would just donate their things to one place and they will divert the items to the appropriate places. Jason will forward the information he has about the company to the meeting members.

Larry asked if this could be coordinated with our solid waste program. Stephanie stated she would need more information about the company as there might be a procurement contract involved. Stephanie would like to know more about their turnover rate. Marty asked if they have any canned marketing materials so they don’t have to recreate the wheel. Dave suggested inviting the company to their next meeting so we can ask them questions.

Jason stated he feels he is not prioritizing this committee as much as he should. His personal business is now kicking off so he is not sure how effective he will be as a committee member. Dave stated you do have to prioritize and go after that one thing and then move onto the next item. You should figure out what other committees or boards you need to get in touch with to move forward with your goals. Carey stated for a long time this committee was just an advisory committee but now with our expanded goals we could focus on the Diversion campaigns.

Dave mentioned the Tree Bylaw he has been working on. They would like to start charging developers that cut down trees and plant large lawns. People need a house and a driveway but do not need massive front lawns. They could start to penalize people with massive front lawns. Larry stated maybe they could offer an incentive or a tax credit for people who have small lawns.

Marty asked if there is a master task list. Carey stated there are actions items on the meeting minutes. Stephanie stated a good 6 month goal would be to reach out to the businesses about the plastic bag ban, the Diversion Campaign and work on a Five Year Plan. The Committee decided to meet again in two weeks on August 19, 2020.

Jason asked what happens to Shaws compostable materials. Stephanie stated it goes to the Cassidy’s. Tracy mentioned the slop buckets used in the past. Tracy suggested interviewing someone from Cassidy’s for a social media post.

**Social media campaign ideas**

Carey stated it would be good to post some short videos on Social Media about our Diversion programs.

**Review Plastic Bag Bylaw and COVID19 restrictions**

Stephanie stated that in the future, we should reach out to the all the businesses or the business council and enforcing authorities because this never got to Beth’s table. Carey stated John Forresto wrote it and she was under the impression he was going to handle that part. Carey stated she doesn’t think this will need to be strictly enforced as a lot of the big stores have already been doing it. Small businesses and take out restaurants might be more of a problem and we can give them a warning letter. Carey will draft the letter. July 27th was the date the plastic ban went into effect but businesses could ask the BOH for an additional 6 months until January 2021 to comply with the bylaw. Stephanie suggested going to a Board of Health meeting. She stated she sent the copy of the bylaw to 300 businesses in towns. She put her direct email on there if anyone had any questions but she has not received any yet. Stephanie suggested they make a social media post targeting residents and one targeted for businesses. She would need this for next week. Marty stated Thursday afternoons between 1-3pm is the best time to post on Face book as it is a high traffic time. Kristen will help with the drafting of the posts. Board of Health meets at least once per month. Carey will contact them about getting on their agenda for next month. Jason volunteered to attend with Carey.

**Action Items:**

* **Carey will send an email to Allison to get Dave Travalini on the agenda for the next Selectmen’s meeting. Carey and Jason will attend that meeting.**
* **Carey will contact the Board of Health to get on agenda for their next meeting.**
* **Carey will draft a warning letter about the Plastic Bag Bylaw.**
* **Kristen will draft the social media posts about the Plastic Bag Bylaw.**
* **Jason will forward the information he has about the My Box company to the meeting members.**

**Approval of minutes: June 2020**

*No meeting minutes were approved at this meeting.*

**Confirm fall 2020 schedule**

*To be discussed at the next meeting.*

**Adjourn**

***Larry made a motion to adjourn at 8:37 pm. Kristen seconded the motion and all were in favor and it was voted to adjourn.***

Respectfully submitted by Tracy Rozak

\*Next meeting: August 19, 2020 at7:00 pm.