

# Board Members

Carey Bergeron, Chair

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 Meeting

January 19, 2022

MEDWAY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Virtual Meeting

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**Members present:**  Carey Bergeron, Martin Dietrich, Jason Reposa, David Travalini, Stephanie Carlisle and Kristen Rice, Tracy Rozak, Recording Secretary.

**Also Present:** Luke Olsen

**Absent:**

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**Call to Order**

***Carey called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm.***

**Report from the Chair**

Carey introduced herself to Luke Olsen who was a guest at the meeting. Luke introduced himself and stated he lives in Medway and recently graduated college and just finished an internship at a small solar developer and financier in RI. He stated he is looking forward to getting some real world experience and making contacts.

**Master Plan Committee Update**

Carey stated they presented the Master Plan update to the Select Board and the Economic Board. They didn’t get a lot of pushback but there were a lot comments about how we would pay for this. The Select Board was surprised by some of the comments that came out of the forum. Martin thought the survey was very lengthy. He suggested breaking up the survey into smaller pieces like the Solar Canopy Interest Survey, which received about 1500 responses and additional comments as well. **Action: Stephanie will send the team the spreadsheet that summarizes all the responses.**

There was a brief discussion about the role of the Master Plan Committee, the Select Board and the next steps moving forward.

**Ongoing Discussions**

**Draft Tree Preservation Bylaw**

Dave stated not much is happening, they are still looking at the November 2022 town meeting. They will ramp up their efforts in the next few months.

**Scholarship**

Martin stated the Scholarship is ready to go. Jason has someone that is interested in contributing money. This committee should come up with a list of possible donors to contact that might contribute to the fund. Stephanie suggested putting the info onto the Friends of Medway site. The target amount is $500 per year. . Martin stated he would prefer to start by contacting the Medway Business Council and companies in town like Eversource etc. Martin would like the committee members to put together a list of possible donors as well. Stephanie would like everyone to send their potential donors to her by February 2nd. **Action: Stephanie will compile the list.** Martin will draw up a draft post and send it to Stephanie and the committee members.

**Community Choice Aggregation**

Carey stated we don’t need to go back to the Town meeting to authorize Community Choice Aggregation. They would have to renew their consultant agreement with Colonial. They would create and update the Aggregation Plan and supporting documents, then send out comments for the public and then the Select Board would vote on it. Martin suggested doing this as a warrant. Stephanie stated this is not necessary because it was already approved at Town Meeting. She explained this process is market based, so it’s challenging to predict outside influential factors that can influence the rate. Unless there is a commitment over a period of time, there is very little to gain from this and we could spend our time on other more beneficial projects. Carey stated Colonial would be happy to come back and give another presentation if we wanted to consider it again.  **Action: Stephanie will remove this item from the Agenda and we will revisit it again in 3-4 months.**

**Food waste diversion and composting**

Stephanie stated she spoke to someone from the town of Needham and they started their program through the schools and stated it took many years to really get it going. Martin suggested surveying the public to see if there is any interest in doing this. Stephanie stated there is a regulation in place now that states if you generate more than 1 ton per week of food waste than you are supposed to divert it from the solid waste stream. They are going to reduce the amount from 1 ton to a ½ ton in the fall. Stephanie cautioned the use of surveys for every topic as you become survey blind. Dave suggested approaching one of the schools to do this as a pilot program. Stephanie will look to see if there is any funding for this first. Martin found a draft post they created from the last Earth Day about the benefits of composting.

**Solar Canopies in School Parking Lot update**

Stephanie sent out a survey and received 1500 responses. She stated most people were supportive and some people were interested but wanted to learn more about the program- how much will it cost taxpayers and how much will they save. There were also some safety concerns about people driving into them. There is a list of frequently asked questions that they could post. The next step would be to hire a 3rd party consultant for procurement. Stephanie reached out to several consultants and is waiting to get their proposals back. Jason mentioned the feedback they received from Charlie Myers about not enough lighting. Stephanie will look to see if anyone ever responded to his comments. Jason was wondering if there is a security guard at the school or security cameras. Stephanie stated there are cameras but not a security guard. They could look into putting up more cameras to monitor the solar panels. Carey stated they have data from other towns that show the solar panels work and students are not driving into them.

Dave mentioned putting up solar panels at the Community Farm. He spoke to Susy Affleck- Childs and she doesn’t have any problems with that and stated there is money available from the state if you use it the solar to run the farm. Dave would like to invite someone from the Farm Board to discuss this. Stephanie suggested that Dave go to one of the Farm Board meetings and present the information to them to see if there is any interest. Kristen volunteered to help with this project. **Action: Dave will reach out to the Farm Board. Action: Stephanie will ask Susy more about the funding.**

Dave also mentioned there is a giant field next to the Drinking Water Treatment plant that is not being used at all that might be good for solar panels. Stephanie thinks that property is listed as a VR property.

Luke stated he has some experience with solar panels on carports and they reduced the incentive for carports in RI. He wondered if they know about the incentives for Mass. Stephanie stated the incentives are good now.

**Charles River Flood Model phase II update**

**604b Water Quality Management Planning Grant introduction**

Stephanie stated she is currently working on this with the schools and DPW and they are looking into drainage management.

**Solar Zoning Bylaw review**

Stephanie asked the committee members to review it, especially the language and be able to discuss it at the next meeting. She will also send out the Client Resiliency Survey to the committee.

**Housekeeping**

**September 15, 2021 Meeting Minutes / November 17, 2021 Meeting Minutes**

***Carey made a motion to approve the September 15, 2021 Meeting Minutes and the November 17, 2021 Meeting Minutes as submitted. Dave seconded the motion and Dave, Marty, Jason, and Carey all stated aye they were in favor and the minutes were approved. Kristen abstained from the vote***

**Adjourn**

***Carey made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 pm. Marty seconded the motion and Dave, Marty, Kristen, Jason and Carey all stated 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* |