

Board Members
Martin Dietrich, Chair
Wally Long, Vice-Chair
Jason Reposa, Member
David Travalini, Member
David Fitzgerald, Member
Stephanie Carlisle, DPW Staff Contact
Frank Rossi, Bd Scltmn Liaison
Andy Rodenheiser, PEDB Liaison
Preston Gales, School Liason



Town of Medway
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
ENERGY AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE MEETING
December 20, 2023– 6:30 pm



Members present: Martin Dietrich, Dave Fitzgerald, Jason Reposa, David Travalini, Stephanie Carlisle and Tracy Rozak, Recording Secretary.

Absent: Wally Long

Call to Order

Martin called the meeting to order at 6:39 pm.

Public Comments

There were none.

1. Discussion: FY23 Energy Use and Cost Data from Green Communities Annual Report.

Stephanie requested that this be discussed at the January meeting.

2. Discussion: Senior Center Electrification Feasibility Study.

Stephanie stated Eversource and RISE Engineering came out and did a thorough investigation of the Senior Center. Eversource is paying RISE to do the evaluation. Stephanie asked Dave F. what he thought about air to water pumps. Dave F. stated he thinks the air to water pump would be a good choice but they would need to change the coils. The problem is if you only want to do two now it is not really feasible as you need to do it all at once. Dave F. thinks a ductless system is the way to go, they have more costs upfront but there are separate units for each space. Dave F. explained that Variable Refrigerant Flow systems (VRF) use one compressor that feeds to multiple indoor units but they are very complicated. This system can't be done piecemeal either as the whole building should be done at the same time. Stephanie stated RISE is going to write a proposal with what they suggest would be best for the Senior Center.

3. Discussion: Recycling and composting in schools and Town.

Dave T. stated the biggest waste of energy at the schools comes from throwing trash into the incinerators. Recycling trash items can save a lot of energy and he has been trying to speak to someone at the schools. Dave T. stated he left messages for the Facilities Director and the Assistant Superintendent but neither of them have got back to him. Stephanie stated the cost savings may not be viewed as important as the environmental factor. Dave T. will talk to Dayna and Wally to try and get them to go to a PTA/PTO meeting. Stephanie would like the schools to help enforce the recycling programs at the schools. We would need to get the kids educated and motivated about recycling and composting. Stephanie stated Black Earth reached out to her again, she is unsure about the procurement issue. She isn't sure if the town can recommend their company specifically but can give people a list of companies. **Action item: Stephanie will talk to her contact at Holliston to see how they work with Black Earth.**

4. Discussion: Update on priority projects (Solar Canopies, Stormwater Education, and Community Engagement.)

Dave T. stated Medway Grid project had received ConCom approval and that the Order of Conditions we issued is being appealed. He also mentioned since he's been reading that the future issues with clean energy might be tied to the grid being unable to handle the increases in energy sources. We should maybe shift some of our recommendations for the asks of Medway Grid and Hecate to batteries instead of funding say solar canopies.

5. Discussion: Brainstorm Winter Seasonal Newsletter topics and distribution method for tracking readership.

Stephanie will send the committee her updated draft. It is one page and all about recycling. Stephanie asked what is the best way to track readership. Martin stated they could use Mail Chip, a free mailing source for up to 500 subscribers. Jason stated there are other ones available for a small fee. Jason stated the Can Spam Act allows users to unsubscribe with just one click. It was also suggested that they put a place on their web page where people can enter their email if they would like to receive the newsletter.

• Report from Chair

Martin stated he submitted a budget request for \$1,000 but has not heard back yet.

• Report from Sustainability Coordinator

Nothing to report.

Approval of November 15, 2023 meeting minutes

Dave. T. made a motion to approve the November 15, 2023 meeting minutes as amended. Dave F. seconded the motion and all the members stated they were in favor and the minutes were approved.

Decide on June 2024 meeting date (reschedule because of the Juneteenth Holiday).

After a brief discussion it was decided to have the June meeting on Wednesday, June 26th.

Adjourn

Dave. F. made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:17 pm. Dave T. seconded the motion and all the members stated they were in favor and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by,

Tracy Rozak