



Medway Energy & Sustainability Committee
Medway Public Library, Conference Room
November 20, 2019 7:00 PM

Members present: Carey Bergeron, Lawrence Ellsworth, Alex Siekierski, Kristen Rice, Jason Reposa, and Tracy Rozak, Recording Secretary

Also present: John Forresto, David Travalini

Absent: Stephanie Carlisle

- Carey called the meeting to order at 7:09 pm.

- **Report from the Chair**

Carey reported that Jason Reposa is going before the board to become a MESC committee member on December 2, 2019.

- **New Business**
- **Review MEI data Ongoing Project Discussion**

Stephanie was absent so we did not review this data.

- **Green Communities grant update**

Stephanie was absent so we did not have an update for this. John stated that going into the stretch code forced us into the green community. The original committee had a baseline and tracked everything for 3 years. We need to look at the current data and see how it has changed. There are other opportunities for solar but we don't know what we already have and how much it has saved. Dave Travalini would like to encourage solar panels on new construction as well as have the developers keep some trees instead of cutting them all down. Dave Travalini mentioned they are working on a tree bylaw right now. Developers would have to replace trees they take down or pay money to a tree warden who would plant trees in another area if the developer was not able to keep any trees. Ideally, there should be incentives for developers to keep trees.

Carey stated they used to have liaisons from other committees come to our meetings but that doesn't happen very often. It would be great if other committees could flag us if they have a relevant topic (such as climate change or energy usage) on their agenda. It would be great to

have an “all committee” meeting at least once per year. John stated there is a meeting like this once per year but you have to limit the number of agenda items in order to get through all the topics. It was noted that Allison Potter is a good resource to speak with as she is in touch with all the different committees.

The group briefly discussed water consumption and water shortage. Alex mentioned he recently went to a Millis town meeting and they are trying to halt any new construction at this point because of water concerns. Alex mentioned trying to educate new people that move into town. Might be a good idea to have a pamphlet on accessibility and sustainability initiatives. Maybe some businesses could sponsor this brochure.

Carey mentioned promoting Mass Save Efforts. Show residents the savings. Could make a short video. Maybe we could draft some educational materials or the PR person or Sandy could put on Face book. Some people don’t know that certain plastics cannot be recycled like all black plastic, straws and the plastic lids from McDonald’s cups. Need to make people aware. John mentioned that it costs the town \$7 per blue recycle bin. If people have two bins but only put out one bin, the town still gets charged for two.

- **Charles River Climate Compact update**

There may be some funding available for watershed areas. Stephanie may have some information on this.

- **Plastic bag ban update**

John stated a letter will be going out to the town businesses soon explaining the ban timelines and ramifications. They will also be putting something on Face book about it.

- **Community Choice Aggregation update**

Larry reported that he does not have an update at this time.

- **Action Items**
- **State of the Town report items**
- **Future topics / other business**
- **Temperature Set Point Policy**

Stephanie is drafting a policy on this. Should the thermostats be in locked boxes? Who would be monitoring them to see if the policy is adhered to?

- **Solar panel regulation**

Stephanie looked into this and may be able to give an update at the next meeting.

- **Composting**

Other towns allow you to buy into composting. We will look into how they do it.

- **5 year plan**
- **Website update**

Meeting Minutes

Carey asked the members to review the September and October meeting minutes for the next meeting. Tracy will send the August meeting minutes to Carey again.

Adjourn

Carey made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:39pm . Alex seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted by,

Tracy Rozak

Recording Secretary