

Location and time: Westwood Town Hall, 7:30 pm

Members in attendance: Stephen Harte (Chair), Maria Costantini (Vice Chair), Julie Gervais (Secretary), Kate La Croix, Claire Galkowski, Sue McGown, Jen Atkins

Others in attendance: Peter Kane, Tom Philbin

Routine Business

Approval of minutes. Minutes were not approved and will be approved at the next meeting.

Topics Discussed

Westwood Day Recap

Black Earth Composting

- 37 bins have been requested
- Need to get the word out about how easy it is
- Action Item: Letter to the Editor in the Hometown weekly on the benefits of home composting - Jen Atkins to write and submit

Recycling and Composting

- Discussion of the location of the recycling and composting center.
- Kate to provide feedback to the recreation dept.
- Idea: partner with the schools, bring in elementary school sponsorship
- Action Item: Kate to schedule a meeting with Kate Doyle (elementary school Science Coordinator) tomorrow and will raise it with her. Discuss getting schools more involved and possibly working with City Composting that provides services for the schools.

Booth

- Booth was great, good traffic, good signage, Recycling game worked well

Race

- Good to have someone at the race, good to set up trash, recycling and composting there

Westwood Comprehensive Plan Update

Peter Kane discussed the Westwood Comprehensive, sections on resiliency and sustainability. It will be presented next Tuesday to the planning board. It discusses the vulnerabilities to the town due to climate change.

There are 6 recommended action items

- Stormwater management plan
- Police fire and DPW update emergency communication systems
- More community education and outreach around climate change
- Placing certain power lines underground
- Education around new diseases
- Fuel storage -- DPW yard

The town can apply for grants to fund the initiatives.

Approved on XX 2018

Todd Korchin is taking prime responsibility for the sustainability plan. The town may need WEAC's support in writing the plan.

Action Item: Look at sustainability and resilience plan templates from other towns including: Lexington, Dedham, Ashland. Suggested that Recommended that Sustainability and Resiliency be separate plans.

Next Step: One hour public listening session, then apply for a grant.

Consider possible Warrant Article that would prohibit new fossil fuel infrastructure in town

Tabled this idea for now, instead will focus on net zero energy municipal buildings.

Action Item: Develop a New Warrant article for Net Zero construction for all new municipal construction and/or renovations. Maria to research language from other towns. Claire, Peter will work on draft text and circulate it in advance of the next WEAC meeting.

Note: Walpole resolution for 100% renewable energy for town buildings by 2030

Solar Projects

Phase 2 solar for Westwood focused on a number of projects:

- Council on Aging (canopy)
- Police Station - roof and parking area
- Roof of Thurston
- Hanlon field (ground mounted)

Preliminary Engineering was done

It was noted that despite solar installations and other energy reductions projects, municipal CO2 emissions are still going up, due to increased size of buildings and the added air conditioning and heating costs. It was noted that we sell energy generated from solar to Eversource and Westwood gets a credit on our electric bill.

Next Steps: Invite a representative from Ameresco (the company that has been developing the plans for the new solar projects) to attend the December WEAC meeting and provide data that would help rank the locations by incentives, power generated, etc. e If possible, it would be helpful to include possible projects at the High School. Specific questions to be sent to Tom Philbin who would then communicate with Ameresco.

- Steve to invite the DPW director t and Select Board member Nancy Hyde

Community Electricity Aggregation

The Aggregation Plan was submitted to Town Officials. The CEA Working Group organized a public meeting. Subsequently the Select Board opened a public comment period. On Monday November 18, the SB Board will vote whether to accept the Plan. Information about the Plan is posted at <https://westwood-cea.com>.

Next Steps: After approval by the Select Board the broker will submit the Plan to the Department of Public Utilities for approval. This step can take up to 10 months

Herbicide Use in Westwood

Discussed proposing an alternative herbicide agent for all school fields.

Next Steps:

Julie to research other towns that are using organic Herbicides vs. Roundup. Claire to introduce Julie to Ellen Fine the Healthy Yards contact from Needham.

Charging stations:

Town working with Green Spot. Looking at locations in towns (rec center, senior center), targeting 4-5 stations. Eversource has a program called "make ready" to provide the infrastructure.

Meeting adjourned at 9:38 p.m.

Next meeting; Dec 12 at 7:30