



## MELROSE ENERGY COMMISSION

### MELROSE ENERGY COMMISSION Meeting Minutes

**Date/Time:** Thursday, January 23, 2020 7:15 pm

**Cassidy Conference Room, City Hall**

**Attendees:** Susan Baron, David Bliss, June Cuttino, Doug Dick, Jeff Doody, Rodney Dowell, Martha Grover, Doug Harriott, Kristi Heiman, Ellen Katz, Cassandra Koutalidis, Susan Murphy, Alanna Nelson, Sunil Sainis, Lisa Trimble

**Presiding:** Alanna Nelson **Secretary:** Susan Baron

**Guests:** Andrea Bates, Ward Hamilton, Chad Koutalidis, Ian Moriarty, Patrick Prendergast, Elaina Rivais

- **Welcome and introductions**
- **Motion** to approve November meeting minutes – so approved
- **Bylaw amendment to reflect August Change** to by laws Meeting date (Alanna).
  - Voted in November to bring up having an August meeting: need a change to bylaws
  - **Motion** to change bylaws to add an August meeting – **so moved**

### New Positions in City Government

- Martha Grover is now the Melrose Sustainability Manager
- Patrick Prendergast is Mayor Brodeur's Chief of Staff

### Energy efficiency improvement in older buildings (Ward Hamilton)

Ward Hamilton, Chairman of the Melrose Historic Commission, is a historic preservation contractor. He wishes to explore how MEC and the Melrose Historical Commission can work together.

- The historical commission preserves, protects, and develops the historical and archaeological assets of the City.
  - Wish to explore how older building can be restored/kept retaining historically character and move towards sustainability.
- Met with Mayor and City Planner several years ago to promote a demolition delay ordinance. This did not pass, but is looking to resubmit an ordinance based on other town's ordinances.
  - May want to incorporate sustainability considerations in the review of older buildings.
- Ward will send MEC email with Historic Commission's proposed ordinance and thoughts on how to integrate goals of integrating historical preservation and sustainable construction
- Ward also sent email about January 30<sup>th</sup> Historic New England workshop to the MHC distribution list

### Marty's Furniture development on ZBA (Ellen)

- Planning board is having two public meetings on Monday 1/27/2020
  - 8pm Marty's Furniture
  - 9pm Swains Pond development
- Members of Ped Bike Committee group are composing a letter to address issue that proposed building renovations lack details about sustainability features.
  - Plans on line are too sparse to evaluate
- Ellen will send email with draft for individuals to sign and, if attending, will contain talking points.
- MEC may want the Planning Board to review their approval recommendations and push for incentives for Net Zero. May want to invite them to meeting to discuss.

### Data Visualization (Kristi & Sunil)

- Data Visualization – creating program (Python) Want to use this to plug in residential and commercial solar energy generation to see how this looks. Difficult to get information.

**Heat Smart Update & CEA PR** (Susan Murphy)

- HeatSmart Massachusetts (HeatSmart Mass) seeks to increase the adoption of small-scale clean heating and cooling technologies in participating communities through a competitive solicitation process that aggregates homeowner buying power to lower installation prices for participants.
- Susan is Heat Smart representative.
- Melrose applied and received a HeatSmart Grant.
  - Training will be happening in next few weeks.

**Melrose Climate Action:** (Martha)

- Martha is preparing an update email to the MCA committee
- Next meeting: February 18<sup>th</sup>

**Solar Subcommittee update** (Jeff)

- Wrapping up solar large roof subcommittee and will be following up on current installations to see what worked and what did not work as well.
- In November Jeff submitted the large building project to [SolSmart](#) and BRS was awarded a SolSmart Innovation Grant
- Note: Mayor met with interfaith clergy and they were pleased with the solar panels on churches.

**Healthy Melrose** (Alanna)

- Please put May 9<sup>th</sup> 10:30 to 1:00 on your calendar.

**Jan 30th Event "Energy Efficiency and Your Old Home"** (Alanna)

Publicizing Aggregation Lisa Trimble

**DPW Director, Assistant DPW Director, and Facility Manager (3 new positions)**

- Requirements have been adjusted to look forward to new needs in the City
- There is no formal hiring committee yet formed. MEC recommended to Patrick Prendergast that he encourage the Mayor to place the Sustainability Manger on the hiring committee

**Carbon Count down event** -Ellen

Sustainable Middlesex is holding a "Carbon Countdown" event on February 29<sup>th</sup> 9:00 to noon in Winchester's Jenks Hall

**Motion** to support this event as a sponsor – so moved

Alanna will let them know about MEC support

**Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness** – Martha Grover

- This Tuesday the City Council accepted a grant MVP action grant (Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness) to address stormwater flooding in parking lot City Hall parking lot.
- Melrose received a \$70,000 design grant. The City Council and Mayor (and staff) had to work quickly to accept this.

Moved to adjourn. So, Moved: 9: 14 pm

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**Upcoming 2020 MEC Meetings**

February 28, March 28, April 25, May 23

June 27, July 25, August (tbd) Meeting, September 26, October 24

November 21 (room tbd), NO DECEMBER Meeting

Cassidy Conference Room (unless noted)