



## **MELROSE ENERGY COMMISSION Meeting Minutes**

**Date/Time:** Thursday, May 27, 2021 7:15 pm

**Location:** Internet

**Attendees:** Tyler Ballew, Susan Baron, David Bliss, , Martha Grover, Ellen Katz, Gary Lamothe, Susan Murphy, Ian Moriarty, Lori Timmerman, Lisa Montuori Trimble, Janine Venuti

**Presiding:** Gary LaMothe

**Secretary:** Susan Baron

**Approve April meeting minutes:** Make date correction: May 24<sup>th</sup>

Motion to accept April Meeting minutes with correction, seconded: Unanimously accepted

### **Approval of May 21 Special session meeting minutes**

Motion to accept May 21 special Meeting minutes, seconded: Unanimously accepted

### **MEC Annual Report and Budget update (Gary/David)**

Gary will share a copy of this report which listed MEC accomplishments this year.

EV Charger Survey and other end of year expenses

- Did not spend as much as they thought.
- Looking at spending ideas for \$450
  - Purchase and Donate books to library for \$75.00
    - Martha has book recommendations for Community reading days- will send Ellen titles
  - MEC sign (over Main Street) may need replacing. Subcommittee will look into this.
  - Opt-Up campaign material: \$250.

Fiscal Year 2022 budget

- MEC allotted \$2,500 for fiscal 2022

### **Sustainability Manger Updates: (Martha Grover)**

- Melrose is in process of going out to bid for next electricity aggregation contract. We discussed mid-tier option. However, DPU is creating new rules. To offer four, not three options, Melrose would need to start a new application process that might last two years. Melrose will stick with three options. We will offer basic, 10%, and %100 rated tiers.
  - Will look next week to see if electricity market is more favorable.
- Last week the electric car chargers were charging money and were not used. May adjust rates.
- City is paying less for energy due to savings Elena and Jim may retrofit schools to LEDs with savings.
- Applied for Green Community grant to install updated water heaters at high school
- Martha's position will be full time July 1<sup>st</sup>

### **Opt up Campaign Subcommittee Report (Janine)**

Subcommittee met and will organize:

- Will have three events at farmer's market. (June 17<sup>th</sup>, July 15<sup>th</sup>, and August 12,) Looking for additional volunteers.

- YMCA will allow us to have a table outside
- Checking with Shaw's for table
- May want to put up banner in baseball fields. (contact Joan Bell)
- May put signs in different places. Looking for banner
- May have Raffle events
- Look into web page.
- Want handouts for Hazard Waste day.
- Looking for flyers for homeowner. May look to send home with kids. – move to fall.
- We see 104 total sign ups
- Will include Briana in communications so that Mayor's office can better support initiative

**Energy New England (ENE) EV survey fund authorization (Susan M.)**

- Had meeting: Want survey of residents about their plans to buy a car. Want to see what vehicle purchase looks like. They have done with groups with mailing lists. May use social media channels. Hope to reach several hundred
- They will create survey for \$1200

*Motion to spend \$1,200 for ENE to create survey. Seconded*

Tyler Ballew: yes

Susan Baron:yes

David Bliss: yes

Ellen Katz: yes

Gary Lamothe: yes

Susan Murphy: yes

Ian Moriarty: yes

Lori Timmerman: yes

Lisa Montuori Trimble: yes

Janine Venuti: yes

*So, moved*

**Melrose Zoning Incentives update and Special Meeting Report (Susan M, Ellen, David)**

- Met with Zoning committee staff and co-chair to find out what they were going to propose to require builders to build closer to Net Zero.
- They are willing to put in Green Building language as a requirement but the MEC subcommittee was not satisfied with language. We proposed substitute language, but it was unclear what was actually included; it was not shared with MEC. This will now go to City Council.
- MEC needs to submit letter to City Council to indicate the direction MEC would like to see.

*Motion to authorize co-chairs to sign a letter to the City Council on behalf of MEC responding to the proposed Zoning incentive amendments.*

Seconded.

Tyler Ballew: y

Susan Baron:y

David Bliss: y

Ellen Katz: y

Susan Murphy: y

Ian Moriarty: y

Lisa Montuori Trimble: y  
Janine Venuti: y  
(Lori and Gary off line)  
*So moved*

**Memorial Hall Upgrades update** (Ellen, David)

David was invited to attend meeting on June 2<sup>nd</sup> with Memorial Hall Trustees about MEC involvement with proposed renovation. David, Ellen and Martha are attending and will report back.

**Outreach/Go Green Pledge, MCAN Newsletter** (Ian)

Ian had 64 entries for green pledge and must pick winner for Gift Certificate.

Picked 38: and will let person know.

Martha mentioned program changes to MassSave, public comment period is open

**New and continuing business**

Summer Stroll and Victorian Fair- MEC will try to have presence.

Motion to Adjourn. Seconded Passed unanimously.

Adjourn at 9:08pm - Next Meeting Thursday, June 24 7:15pm