

What else should we do to ensure that Lexington's future is fully sustainable? Would you support the following proposals that have been developed over the past year by the Sustainable Lexington Committee:

- Adopting the proposed Sustainable Action Plan
- Adopting the proposed Sustainable Building Design Policy
- Switching the Town's municipal electricity supply agreement to 100% renewable energy sources

These proposals have all been reviewed by the Board of Selectmen and will be under consideration for adoption by the Selectmen this year. If you are elected, which of these proposals would you support? Please provide a brief explanation of your reasoning. Details on each proposal and a copy of the question can be found by visiting: www.CLCLEx.org.

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CANDIDATES FOR

TOWN-WIDE OFFICE

Candidate for Selectman

Jill Hai

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To Citizens for Lexington Conservation

Thank you for the opportunity to consider your questions.

The work of CLC and Sustainable Lexington has been a huge asset to the Town and the environment in reduced operating costs as well as a healthier environment. As a member of the Board of Selectmen, I would like to explore moving some of this work from a volunteer agenda to a more formal role within the staff, to ensure its ongoing viability and growth.

As a member of the Capital Expenditures Committee I have seen and supported the increasing consideration of sustainability in the building project process. I believe it is imperative that we consider the impact of decisions we are making today on the long-term health of our community, our finances and the environment. I have been pleased to see the progress made on creating a useful framework for decision-making in the design, procurement and building process. As a member of the Board of Selectmen I would like to work toward a comprehensive planning and execution process for Capital Projects which would provide a basis for consistent actions, and expressly incorporates

sustainability. The current drafts of the Sustainable Action Plan and Building Design Policy appear to further that goal while also keeping the financial burden we place on taxpayers in mind.

I applaud the work which has been done to improve our use of renewable energy in town. I support efforts to provide as much of our municipal electricity supply from renewable energy as reasonably possible. Switching supply agreements must however, be done through negotiation between the parties to that agreement.

Candidate for School Committee: 3-Year Term

No responses were received.

Candidate for Planning Board

Richard Canale

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I support all three CLC proposals because they can soften the impacts we will face as our climate inevitably changes.

- Adopting the proposed Sustainable Action Plan
- Adopting the proposed Sustainable Building Design Policy
- Switching the Town's municipal electricity supply agreement to 100% renewable energy sources

As a Planning Board member, I am committed making sustainability a normal

practice in all we do, not just an afterthought or a box to check. In that manner, I urge every reader of this newsletter to actively participate in the ongoing Town's Comprehensive Plan update to ensure that sustainability principles are embedded throughout the new Plan.

The Planning Board has begun this process with staff doing early work preparing for a robust public outreach this Spring. Please attend, or view on Lexmedia, the upcoming Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee Panel Discussions that are to be held monthly starting now. These panels will inform residents about the process and prepare residents to engage and contribute in a community-wide outreach program in May or June. Please look for your chance to ensure that Lexington's Plan is sustainable in every dimension, environmental and otherwise.

Ginna Johnson

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I am in full support of adopting the proposed Sustainable Action Plan, the proposed Sustainable Building Design Policy and switching the Town's municipal electricity supply agreement to 100% renewable energy sources. I look forward to developing and integrating the "Environment Sector" into the Sustainability Plan and the Town's Comprehensive Plan, just now getting underway. I would also advocate for adding Sustainable SITES to the policy as it protects the environment from damage more than LEED.

CANDIDATES FOR TOWN MEETING

Precinct 1

Jean Cole

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If the Board of Selectmen thinks it can carry out these proposals I would support them. The climate change issues tend to fly under the radar politically most of the time, but I think they should be at the top of the priority list. I am grateful for the work done by CLC and others in town to work on these issues, and I am guided by their collective wisdom.

Robert Cunha

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The efforts by the Sustainable Lexington Committee have been remarkable and the committee should be congratulated on their efforts and accomplishments to date. Lexington is so fortunate in having a group of citizens who have given so much of their time and energy in working towards achieving a renewable future.

I would certainly support adoption of the proposed Sustainable Action Plan and adoption of the proposed Sustainable Design Plan. Further switching the Town's municipal electricity supply energy agreement to a 100% renewable source is an achievable goal we should be working towards.

Currently I am a member of the Lexington's Permanent Building Committee working on the new Fire

Department's Headquarters Fire Station. As the design phase of the project moves forward I am committed to have the new building meet the sustainable design policy requirements. Being involved so early in the design process provides an opportunity to have real impact on achieving these goals.

The Fire Department Headquarters project is an example of how I am committed to the goals of renewable buildings. The new Fire Station will be another step in the Town's commitment to build Municipal buildings to the highest standards.

Lexington has put in place a great game plan to provide the town a path of being fully sustainable. I believe that we can take charge of Lexington's future, with a strong public education program and community leadership commitment being the main elements to ensure Lexington will be able to reach the fully sustainable goal.

Mary Ann Stewart
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Climate change is real and the Town of Lexington is committed to becoming more sustainable. The Town should do all it can to achieve "net zero" carbon emissions, accelerate renewables, and support green policies in all the ways we live, build, and move. Previous Town Meeting actions saw the Town adopt the Stretch Energy Code in March 2010; in March 2013 the Town adopted Warrant Article 33 stating that the Town will:

"(a) consider climate change in all appropriate decisions and planning processes; (b) take action to prepare for the impacts of a changing climate; (c) reduce greenhouse gas emissions; (d)

develop and implement a comprehensive climate action plan; all with the goal of making Lexington a truly sustainable community."

Two proposals, the Sustainable Action Plan and the Sustainable Building Design Policy, deepen the Town's previous commitments and expand its portfolio for sustainable practice. I support both proposals because they demonstrate responsible policy that protects and sustains our environment and natural resources.

Lexington and Sustainable Lexington were recently recognized by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts with its "Leading by Example" award. The award recognizes outstanding clean energy, environmental, and sustainability efforts on the part of state agencies, municipalities, and individuals. I support a comprehensive energy policy that builds on work already done to advance our green economy and to further clean energy and renewables, Town-, State-, and Nation-wide.

Judith Zabin
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The Sustainable Lexington Committee has been an invaluable Town resource over the past 7 years and I have followed their actions and initiatives and recommendations to The Board of Selectmen. Whenever they came before Town Meeting, I voted in favor of the Committee's recommendations.

I would definitely support the adoption of the Sustainable Action Plan and Sustainable Building Design Policy as well as the goal of a 100% renewable energy

municipal electrical supply agreement. The draft plans and policies submitted to the Board of Selectmen is impressive in its detailed analysis of the mitigation and adaptation goals in 10 sectors and in the delineation and involvement of municipal and non-government stakeholders. The requirement of a yearly assessment and report to the Board of Selectmen assures transparency and accountability.

Protection and enhancement of the environment is and always has been an important value for me as it is for so many Lexington residents. I feel very fortunate to have lived here for many years and to have had the opportunity to vote on environmentally sound decisions - acquisition of open space, wetland protection, and recycling- during my long tenure as a Town Meeting member from Precinct 1.

Sandhya Beebee
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I am proud of Lexington's extraordinary commitment as a town to seek renewable energy sources and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. I, personally, do what I can to slow climate change and preserve our environment. For example, we have solar panels installed in our home, and I drive a hybrid vehicle.

As PTA president of Harrington Elementary School, I supported and promoted the efforts of our Green Team to begin a composting and recycling program in the cafeteria during lunchtime. This program has reduced the amount of lunchtime trash from six to one bag. I volunteer several times a month during lunchtime to ensure students dispose of their lunch trash appropriately. It is a very

messy task! However, it is a rewarding one. I also worked on the construction and planting of a Tranquility Garden at our school, so students could enjoy a quiet nature retreat during the chaos of recess.

If elected to town meeting, I will support the goals cited in the Sustainable Action Plan and Sustainable Building Design policy for our capital projects as long as they are financially prudent and make practical sense. As a member of the Capital Expenditures Committee, I voted in support of an all-electric fire station with a solar powered hot water heater. I also supported an all-electric LCP design with an Energy Recovery Unit that meets Lexington's Sustainability goals.

I like the goal of shifting the Town's municipal electricity supply to 100% renewable resources. However, I reserve my opinion on Sustainable Lexington Committee's proposal until I review the report on what this move entails. The town's financial situation has been pressured by the demands of several, large building projects occurring simultaneously. I am cognizant that our taxpayers are shouldering a heavy burden.

As a town meeting member, I would support measures that reduce our carbon footprint, increase energy efficiency, and preserve our environment. For instance, I will support the citizen sponsored ballot measure that would ban plastic bags in Lexington. In the future, I hope other measures are proposed that reduce energy consumption and waste in our schools and municipal facilities.

Sudhir Ranjan

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If I get elected, I will support the proposed Sustainable Action Plan. Here is my view.

Climate change is real, and we need to take action for sustainability very seriously. This is the focal point of our proposed Sustainable Action Plan, through which Town of Lexington publicly acknowledges our roles and responsibilities and strategizes the challenges of climate change via mitigation and adaptation. This plan campaigns to minimize environmental footprints by the overarching goal of making Lexington a net-zero emissions community in near future!

The proposed Sustainable Action Plan further encompasses health/wellness of their residents and visitors as well as economic benefits of sustainable actions and investments. A research work published in a medical journal entitled “A Commission on Climate Change” described climate change as “the biggest threat to global health in the 21st century” (The Lancet, Volume 373, Issue 9676, Page 1659, and Year 2009). This entails a new public advocacy movement – food, water, waste, disease, environment, economy, extreme events etc.

The proposed Sustainable Action Plan is aimed at not only reducing the environmental impact but also to enhance community resilience thereby giving residents of Lexington an opportunity to prepare for a better future. The plan has identified several key sectors and stakeholder groups including the one that belongs to buildings – residential. In this

capacity, this plan has an edge over other plans in reducing greenhouse gases and improving indoor residential environments. It is to be noted here that Town of Lexington has several thousands of residential buildings as compared to energy intensive commercial buildings. As per this document, these residential buildings produce nearly 11 tons of carbon dioxide equivalents per year, much higher than the national average of 7.5 tons, which is mainly due to intensive heating during winter time. How the building – residential, commercial and municipal operates determines the total energy consumption. Therefore, effective learning and implementation with the support of a group of experts may help in improving environmental performance as we continue to make progress in the process of adopting new technology and harnessing available resources.

With changing climatic conditions, this plan supplements to promote public awareness and public engagement, which in turn will allow Lexington residents to be better equipped against the disaster and extreme weather conditions.

Precinct 2

No responses were received from Precinct 2 candidates.

Precinct 3

Robert Rotberg

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If re-elected to another term as Town Meeting Member, I will strongly support and will argue on Town Meeting floor for:

Adopting the proposed Sustainable Action Plan

Adopting the proposed Sustainable Building Design Policy

Switching the Town's municipal electricity supply agreement to 100% renewable energy sourcing.

I have always supported the work of the Town's excellent Sustainable Lexington Committee, in Town Meeting and outside. The work that has been done to switch our town to renewable sources of energy has been successful and a lesson for other towns and cities.

I also continue to favor exploring the option of creating a municipal electricity distribution system along Concord lines (and some other towns).

Martin A. Lessem

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Having read through your proposed Sustainable Building Design Policy and the proposed Sustainable Action Plan, I am very impressed with the work that has gone into both documents. The care for the environment shown by the CLC is very heartening, and as such, I would be proud to support not only both of these proposals, but also your third proposal of switching the Town's municipal energy supply agreement to 100% renewable energy.

We are currently living in, what has been dubbed, the Anthropocene era. This is an epoch marked, not by solely geological changes, but rather by those changes caused primarily by us, which is why the other name for the era is "The Human

Era." While it is not yet the official name for it, it has been proposed to the International Union of Geological Sciences for ratification, and would begin with the Industrial Revolution around 1780, having been preceded by the Holocene Era, which would be detailed more as the pre-industrialization "equilibrium". Since the Industrial Revolution, the net CO2 emissions by humans has increased the atmospheric concentrations from approximately 280ppm to 400ppm up to 2015. Since then, monthly monitoring has seen the numbers creep above 400ppm. All of this is able to be traced directly to human effects on the environment.

Another major indicator of this Era is the increase in extinction rates which can also be directly linked to our interaction with the environment. This rate is anywhere from 100 to 1,000 times greater than the normal rate of extinction without human involvement. As such, although I know you do not ask about it, I am very glad to see your petition on banning or eliminating plastic bags in Lexington.

However, the question asked was regarding support for the three proposals regarding energy, and those are critical for the long-term sustainability of our environment. Over the past 120 years, we have clear records of temperatures changing on a global level by 1deg C, and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change in 2013, found that the 21st Century will likely see additional increases between 0.3 to 1.7deg C on the low end, and as high as 2.6 to 4.8deg C on the high end. These changes are dangerous for a variety of reasons, but not least of which is the overall effect they have on the climate in the area we reside. As your own sustainability Plan points out, if nothing is done to curb these emissions, by 2099,

Massachusetts could have a climate similar to that of South Carolina. This is not an acceptable path.

I am a firm believer that Climate Change is a phenomenon which is accelerated by man's use of fossil fuels. It is no coincidence that since the industrial revolution we have been witnessing changes in our climate on an almost annual basis. Hopefully, initiatives, such as those proposed by the CLC, will stand as a model for townships around the region, and possibly even the country, and help to not only reduce our dependency on fossil fuels, but also ensure that buildings, both new constructions and renovations, will be built in a way which maximizes their sustainability, while minimizing their impact on the environment.

The first steps were taken by the CLC and Lexington in the implementation of the energy savings plans which have already gone into effect. It would be my pleasure to continue to help the CLC in advocating for programs which contribute to the mitigation of climate change or the adaptation of programs to help combat climate change.

David Kaufman

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I will fully support adoption of the Sustainable Action Plan.

I will fully support adoption of the Sustainable Building Design policy.

I support the goal of eventually switching the Town's municipal electricity supply agreement to 100% renewable energy sources, however that is probably not a goal that can or should be achieved immediately, since at this time only about

9 or 10% of the electric generation resource in New England is wind or solar. Local hydro, another 3%, is renewable but has been nearly fully exploited for a long time, and has impacts on the flow of our rivers, and the fisheries. If Lexington switches immediately, that means that some other municipalities, businesses and individuals will not be able to switch, even if they want to, or will be switched back to non-renewable sources by default, so the total power generated from all sources will remain approximately the same, and so will the greenhouse gasses generated by the entire region. Lexington would feel good but not really solve the big problem.

To really reduce the total emissions from fossil fuels will require time both to build more wind and solar generation in New England and to build more transmission lines to import renewable power from regions that have an excess of renewable power, including possibly hydro from Canada. For example, some wind farms in Texas are capable of creating much more power than they can send to users via available transmission lines so they just sit idle even when they could be sending essentially free power to New England if there was a path to do that.

Ultimately, there is plenty of wind and solar for the entire US needs but they are intermittent, because some regions will have wind when there is no sun and some will have no wind and plenty of sun. Only strong transmission lines between those regions can eliminate the need for large storage mechanisms such as batteries, or some non-renewable generation.

New storage battery technology is rapidly being developed but is not yet widely available at utility scale and a reasonable cost. Some battery technology is also

polluting, or has other environmental problems in the long term. The environmental effect of biomass and some other nominally non-fossil fuels is not necessarily as benign as it may seem, depending on what fuel is actually used.

Precinct 4

Gloria Bloom

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I support the Sustainable Action and Building Design proposals. The Town will ultimately save money by investing more upfront - just consider the expense created by building Clarke Middle School with electric heat to reduce initial costs. We ended up having to convert to another system at much greater cost than doing it right (by the standards of the times) at the start. I don't know the details of the cost to switch the town to 100% renewable supply. As residents, the community choice plan saved money for us and uses 100% renewable energy. The Town should look into switching but the ultimate decision depends on the deal they can negotiate which depends on factors beyond the control of the town which affect the cost and availability of renewable energy, like permits for wind farms and transmission lines through other states. Investing in solar wherever we can to generate our own electricity is a very reasonable option.

Peter Enrich

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In my thirty years of active engagement in Lexington's government, as a town meeting member, selectman, and progressive activist, environmental

concerns have always been among my foremost priorities. Nothing is more vital to our community's and our children's future than that we work aggressively to reduce our Town's, our households', and our businesses' carbon footprints and provide a model of how a vibrant community can move to net zero.

As a selectman, I led the effort to create the Lexington 20/20 Vision process, to ensure more effective long-range planning as part of the town's policy making, and I continue to play a leadership role on the 20/20 committee. I'm proud that the 20/20 Vision process paved the way for many of the efforts that have kept Lexington at the cutting-edge of climate change response. Although I'm not an expert on these issues, I am grateful to the extraordinary talents that the Town has been able to draw on in this work, and I have consistently been a vocal advocate for the strategies our expert committees have advanced.

It has been gratifying to see the level of commitment the town has directed toward climate change concerns in recent years, and the centrality these concerns are assuming in town decision-making. I will be a strong advocate for expanded efforts, including adoption and aggressive implementation of the Sustainable Action Plan and the Sustainable Building Design Policy. I also support continued expansion of the town's reliance on renewable energy sources, with a goal of achieving 100% renewable sources at the earliest feasible date. I recognize that, in the short term, some of these measures will likely entail modest increases in municipal costs, but believe that these are vital investments in a sustainable future.

Jill Hai

This candidate's response is under Candidate for Selectman.

Claire Sheth

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While I have been granted a page for this response, I don't think I'll need it! I commend CLC's commitment to the health of our community through its conservation advocacy and actions. As a Town Meeting Member I will support all reasonable and cost-effective measures to control the ecological impact of town planning and future development. I think all future building projects should begin with a conservation/net-zero goal in mind.

Charles Lamb

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I am currently chair of the Capital Expenditures Committee (advisory committee to Town Meeting) and have been a member and/or chair since 2005 (I took a 2 year hiatus from 2014 - 2016 for personal reasons). During my tenure on this committee I have always supported sustainable building practices, ever since the town adopted a policy of building all new buildings to LEED Silver. The CEC has worked with Mark Sandeen and the Sustainable Lexington Committee on many new projects including various new schools and the Hadley DPF facility.

In general I support the actions posed by the question (adopting the proposed Action Plan, Building Design Policy, and switching the Town's electricity supply to 100% renewable). I say "in general" because there might be some tweaks that would be desirable, but the overall

premises of the proposals are pretty much no-brainers for me to support. As the Trump administration seems disinterested in anything having to do with climate change, it is incumbent on us as citizens of Lexington to at least act locally.

In the area of additional measures, I would be interested in hearing from the Permanent Building Committee, Sustainable Lexington Committee, and the DPF Director whether it would make sense to adopt a higher LEED standard (e.g. Gold or Platinum) for future building projects as well as to adopt LEED standards for renovation projects.

In the vein of personal action, I drive electric/hybrid cars (Chevy Volt, Toyota Prius), and of course use the Community Choice renewable electricity purchase plan.

Lawrence Chan

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We have a moral and ethical responsibility to use our natural resources in the most sustainable way to safeguard our future generations. If elected to Town Meeting Member I would support the adoption of the proposed Sustainable Action Plan and the proposed Sustainable Building Design policy. I would be opened minded to read further research and rational surrounding the proposal to switch the Town's municipal electricity supply agreement to 100% renewable energy sources. That information was not found on the CLC website.

Fundamentally, any new construction should take advantage of the most affordable and current technology for

sustainability. New construction has the opportunity to be the perfect intersection of energy cost savings realized over time and sustainability through the global standard of LEEDs certification.

The Sustainable Action Plan is very well detailed over 13 pages. The objective of reaching net zero emissions is a right stretch goal. It may be long to achieve if ever, but reaching for an ideal will surely challenge the mindset and actions to achieve greatly.

As a Town Meeting member, I promise to represent and honor my constituents. I will leverage my decades of corporate experience to engage and evaluate all warrants and associated data. I will envision if the proposed solutions are true to our town heritage, character, my constituents and vote according.

Precinct 5

Anil Ahuja

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We are facing extreme weather patterns due to global warming. The burden being placed on Planet Earth is increasing every year due to consumption patterns, a direct result of growing population, and increasing disposable income. Mankind is leaving a bigger carbon footprint every year.

There are efforts underway on many fronts to mitigate these issues, such as the advent of hybrid and electric cars. Solar is having a huge impact on reducing our dependence on fossil fuels. Wind energy is making its presence felt. The question is, how can we make a difference?

I am completely for all the actions proposed by Citizens for Lexington Conservation with regards to:

Solar Energy Systems on Town Properties

Municipal Energy Efficiency Investments

Community Choice 100% renewable energy

I am for the Adopting the proposed Sustainable Action Plan. I do need to know the scope, impact, and funding required for:

1. Adopting the proposed Sustainable Building Design Policy

2. Switching the Town's municipal electricity supply agreement to 100% renewable energy sources

I will be in a better position to make a decision when more information is available about the costs associated with the above two line items. We have to be fiscally prudent given that the taxpayers recently passed an override and several of my constituents have expressed unhappiness at the growing tax burden.

John Hayward

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I favor reducing our dependence on fossil fuels and look forward to hearing more at Town Meeting about how Lexington can make greater use of sustainable energy.

Sam Silverman
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I have supported sustainable action and policy for many years. I believe, on the basis of scientific evidence that climate change is real, and a major factor in the ability of humans to continue to exist on this planet. I believe also that we are not doing enough on conservation matters, and this aspect needs more consideration.

I believe that electricity supply from renewable sources needs to be seriously considered in comparison to traditional sources. But we must also remember that a significant portion of our population is already suffering from increases in property taxes, so that any increase in cost to the homeowner be neutralized by savings in other areas. I believe we need very serious consideration of cost cutting provisions in our budget before taking on any new program.

Richard Neumeier
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As a candidate for town meeting, precinct 5 I will support all three proposals by the Sustainable Lexington Committee.

Jyotsna Kakullavarapu
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I am a staunch supporter of Lexington Community choice program, Electricity from Renewable Resources. Educate and raise awareness among Lexington residents regarding Lexington's sustainability, resilience and how effective is electricity aggregation, cost from renewable resource is much less. I am not only a resident of Lexington but, own

Interim Healthcare of Lexington MA, a home health care business located in Lexington for which Eversource is a provider of electricity. Costs especially during winter season are outrageously high. 100% green is helping to some extent.

All of us are always focused on safety and sustainability in everything we do, under one umbrella of aggregation and town making contracts with renewable power companies will make it feasible for residents and businesses. Wind power accounts for more than half of all renewable power in the world today, and it is helping propel the transition to a lower-carbon future. Continue to optimize by seeking out technological advancements and finding ways to deliver power more efficiently. Wind power is safe, clean and increasingly affordable – with the potential for production on a much larger scale.

Research shows that the existing renewable energy potential and technologies coupled with storage can generate enough energy to meet the global electricity demand by 2050. Solar PV and battery storage will increasingly drive most of the electricity system. The renewable energy transition would create 36 million jobs by 2050, 17 million more than today as per experts. So, seeking out advancement in community choice program is what I support.

Precinct 6

Mark Andersen
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Thank you the opportunity to review the Sustainable Action Plan and Sustainable

Building Design Policy, as well as the warrant article to ban plastic bags.

I look forward to learning more if these items are discussed on town meeting floor. With regard to sustainability, I agree the town should emphasize LEED certification and air quality concerns, and hope we do that on existing buildings over time as well as new facilities being built.

In the case of plastic bags, I support their ban, but also favor a system where a mandatory charge or tax exist on their use so as to discourage them entirely.

My objective in running for town meeting is to be open to concerns from all constituents, and to bring relevant analytical information to bear as much as possible. At this time, I have setup a new website, <http://mylocaltaxes.com>, designed to compare municipalities in their handling of tax and policy issues. This website would be an appropriate venue for comparing sustainability policies across towns as well. Please email me at mylocaltaxes@gmail.com if you have any feedback.

Thank you for your volunteer efforts in the sustainability area.

Bebe Fallick
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I have a proven track record in this area, both as a former member of the Conservation Commission and as a longtime Town Meeting member. I have supported previous efforts in this area and intend to continue a positive vote.

Since so much changes between now and the vote at Town Meeting, I will make my decisions on exactly how to support these

measures as they become more explicit. I certainly hope for continued environmental awareness and action.

Edmund Grant
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I have been impressed with the work of Chairman Mark Sandeen and his Sustainable Lexington Committee and in his presentations to Town Meeting and a couple at Board of Selectmen meetings. I am personally not well versed in the field of sustainable energy yet presume these three proposals would be good for Lexington; and would be inclined to support them upon the Selectmen's support of them and review of their recommendation.

Brian Kelley
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Sustainability and conserving energy should be a goal of every business, government and individual. Lowering the Town's energy consumption through sustainable building policies and switching to more efficient sources of heating and cooling such as electric heat pumps are admirable goals that should be taken seriously. I look forward to hearing the reports and debate about the Sustainable Action Plan, the Sustainable Building Design Policy and the concept of using 100% renewables to supply the Town's energy. Each of these items seem like worthy endeavors but I will reserve final judgment until after the Town Meeting debate.

Jane Pagett
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Stewardship for the environment and all of the earth's resources and creatures is everyone's responsibility. To live responsibly on this planet, we must address the issues of littering, degradation of soil, trees and wildlife habitat, energy consumption, littering and the implications of old and new energy forms.

We who are not technically trained must rely on interpretation of key indicators assembled by our experts. I place enormous credence in the work done by the Sustainable Lexington Committee, especially in the area of Sustainable Design Policy, and I have every intention of supporting their efforts.

It seems to me that new development is an area where we fall short of the goals of many who seek to use the earth in a sensitive way. Two building lots were literally gouged out of Merriam Hill on lower Grant Street. The clear-cutting of trees, unearthing of boulders, and endless blasting (for about 9 months) were a major disturbance on Merriam Hill. I'm glad if the two residences constructed have LEEDs ratings, but not at the damage of the environmental assault involved in the construction and site work. Seems kind of ironical...

Precinct 7

Philip Hamilton
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I support all of those proposals. I am strongly in favor of the Sustainability Plan, the Sustainable Design Policy and a

commitment to achieve all municipal electricity from renewable sources. It has been very satisfying to see the Town's progress toward sustainability, reflected in the installation of the large solar array at the Hartwell Avenue facility and the Community Choice renewable electricity program, as well as in the designs for the new Hastings School and the new Lexington Children's Place. We must maintain this progress.

I am also in favor of reducing or banning single-use plastic bags. Plastic products have made life more convenient, but many of them are causing environmental problems, usually related to their presence in the waste stream. Any serious effort at environmental cleanup will have to include a reduction of plastic waste. A mandated reduction of single-use bags, which are now dispensed in great number at food and other retail stores, would be a good place to start. Such bans are already in place in many countries, as well as in some of our neighboring towns. From 2006 to 2014, I spent a month every summer in Ireland, where a tax on single-use plastic bags in 2002 led to a 90% reduction in their use, with few consumer complaints and very obvious environmental benefits. I'm sure that Lexington shoppers would adjust equally well.

Benjamin Moroze
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I support all of the CLC's initiatives.

The best way to get ourselves out of the climate change crisis is to reduce our energy use, which the CLC's Sustainable Action Plan and Building Design Policy

each address. Beyond that, anything we can do to move away from fossil fuels for our electricity supply is absolutely crucial. I do everything I can to support the shift to renewable energy at both the personal level (I have installed solar panels, and drive a battery electric vehicle) and at the Town level: I was deeply involved in guiding the Town away from building the anaerobic digester at the Hartwell Ave. site, and instead pushed for the major solar installation we so fortunately have now. This was a big contributor toward the goal of moving the Town's municipal electricity supply toward 100% renewables, which I absolutely support.

Precinct 8

Ingrid Klimoff

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To answer the first question, I would suggest that local environmental leaders consider the following steps, taken from the book *Drawdown*, by Paul Hawken, which lists the top 100 solutions to climate change, in order of importance: public education re: reduced food waste, plant-rich diet, silvopasture (trees, livestock, and forage developed to their full economic potential), regenerative agriculture, forest restoration, conservation agriculture, tree intercropping, and farmland restoration. Lexington has a great deal of conservation land; more of it could be used for agriculture, and/or forests. We could do better at preserving trees in conservation land and in other publicly owned land. (Remember that trees absorb carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide from the air, and release oxygen. Trees

also store carbon by converting it to biomass.)

To answer the second question, would I support the 3 proposals that will be under consideration by the Board of Selectmen:

1. Adopting the proposed Sustainable Action Plan. YES.

This is an attempt to measure and to modify energy usage, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, to ensure the resilience of the Town to the deleterious effects of climate change, and to have the wild and wonderful goal of making this town a "Net Zero Community".

My reasons for supporting this are: to have structure for the Town as a whole to address greenhouse gas emissions, in order to modify and lower energy usage, and to have structure for the Town to plan ahead for how to deal with natural/environmental disasters.

By using the formal system of setting goals and looking at measurable results, we can better understand and learn that we can modify energy usage, and still have a safe, comfortable living environment.

2. Adopting the proposed Sustainable Building Design Policy. YES.

This will help provide healthy air quality, lower energy use, and better energy conservation. This will be not just for new buildings, but for all renovations of over 5,000 sq. ft. by the Town. New buildings will conform to LEED Silver Standards, or to NE CHPS standards (schools). There will be enhanced filtration of particulate matter. Carbon dioxide levels will be at or below the Board of Health recommendation. Buildings will have

advanced, high tech metering devices, to monitor energy usage.

3. Switching the Town's municipal electricity supply agreement to 100% renewable energy sources. YES.

This will avoid the use of fossil fuels.

Jim Osten
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I support the Sustainable Action Plan and the Sustainable Building Design Policy but would wait to go to 100% renewable energy sources until such time as the availability and cost of renewable energy are more certain. In 2016, I participated in a project analyzing European and US residential and commercial appliance standards to reduce energy use and carbon emissions. While many technologies are evolving and will ultimately be cost effective, there are environmental challenges before us now including the switch to all-electric vehicles and the disruption of plastic recycling by China. Both of these challenges provide opportunities to move Lexington towards sustainability.

For plastic recycling, restrictions on one use plastic bags is an important step that should be put into action, much as neighboring communities have done already. Limits on sales of one use plastic water bottles are also an important way to reduce the volume of plastic waste.

Electric vehicles are expected to grow rapidly in the near future and will require not only charging stations but also large increases in renewable electric generation in order to actually reduce CO2.

According to past surveys of wind power potential in Massachusetts, most is in either Berkshire or Barnstable counties, pretty distant from Lexington. Since most vehicles would presumably be charged during the nighttime, wind generation which is often the highest during nighttime will be the primary renewable source for recharging vehicles. While there is ample offshore wind potential, offshore development is more costly and faces more obstacles such as those that led to the demise of Cape Wind. I would need to see a clear path forward for adequate renewable generation and cost effective energy storage to be available to meet expected demand growth before supporting 100% renewable purchases.

Lin Jensen
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I would support all three of the proposals.

I would also propose a styrofoam ban in Lexington.

Looking into the future, we should have a policy for town buildings, especially school buildings to switch from single-use culture to reuse culture. I.e. to include a dishwasher during all future cafeteria/kitchen renovations.

Brielle Meade
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I would support adopting the three proposals developed by the Sustainable Lexington Committee. Sustainability goals and emissions reductions fit into fiscally responsible planning, and the proposed Sustainable Action Plan seems well thought out, focusing on overarching goals

to work on over an appropriate time period. Thinking about sustainability goals as Lexington plans and grows is critical to ensuring a bright future for everyone in Town. The Sustainable Building Design Policy also seems reasonable, codifying the idea that "the Town will design its buildings to achieve the highest reasonably attainable performance standards for health, energy and resilience." We should absolutely consider long-term consequences of our building designs, including environmental impact and savings from sustainable design practices. As long as the policy allows flexibility in implementation and consideration for budget, I certainly support adoption.

Finally, the Community Choice 100% renewable electricity agreement seems to be a big success, moving Lexington closer to emissions reduction goals and saving money for residents at the same time. If the municipal electricity supply agreement is as cost-effective, it's a no-brainer to adopt this proposal as well.

Precinct 9

Hemaben Bhatt

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I will support the proposal of adopting the Sustainable Action Plan, Sustainable Building Design Policy and switching to 100% renewable energy sources.

I believe in going green and embracing the efforts by putting it in action. This will reduce the cost, improve the efficiency, produce less waste, reduce the energy usage and will have less pollution. It will serve our future generation well; we have

the ability to seize the innovation for everyone's benefit.

Scott Bokun

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I have supported and will continue to support the following 100%:

Solar Energy Systems on Town properties

\$ 450,000 / year

Municipal Energy Efficiency Investments

\$ 450,000 / year

Community Choice 100% renewable electricity \$1,500,000 / year

I strongly support adopting the proposed Sustainable Action Plan, adopting the proposed Sustainable Building Design Policy, and switching the Town's municipal electricity supply agreement to 100% renewable energy sources.

What else should we do to ensure that Lexington's future is fully sustainable?

I've recently spoken with Mark Sandeen about striving for a renewable future for Lexington. This past summer I even bought an electric car and put solar panels on our roof! The tax breaks will be amazing for 2017, but I fear they will not be there in the future.

I think we are doing an excellent job in Lexington already. What a difference it would make in the world if every US town and state could get on board the sustainable train! Besides designing sustainable/energy efficient policies, we should also continue to speak to as many people as possible via newspapers, social media, casual conversations, etc. about the benefits of sustainability and how to fight against climate change. The time is now.

Richard Canale

This candidate’s response is under Candidate for Planning Board.

Mollie Garberg

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The challenge of climate change is arguably the most important challenge we face as a society. The work of the CLC and others in Lexington - to raise awareness and move us forward in addressing this challenge through mitigation of our emissions and adaptation of our infrastructure and emergency preparedness – is critical for the health and safety of our community.

As a Town Member, I have been supportive of the actions of the CLC including the adoption of solar energy on Town properties, municipal energy efficiency investments and the community choice in renewable electricity initiative. The Sustainable Action Plan and Building Design Policy appear to be both effective and cost-conscious.

I look forward to seeing the results of the efforts of the CLC in planning for extreme storm response in Lexington. As our region continues to experience the environmental impacts of climate change, it is my hope that we can begin to work more with our neighboring communities on these issues, to the benefit of all.

Tom Shiple

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I support all three proposals. I have been closely following the work of the Sustainable Lexington Committee the last

few years; they have an excellent track record of thoroughly researching problems, developing innovative solutions, and implementing projects.

The Sustainability Plan is a well-thought out roadmap of how we can address mitigation of, and adaptation to, climate change. It fits within the mandate of Warrant Article 33 adopted in 2013. The plan does a great job of defining our broad goals, breaking these goals down into measurable goals for different activity sectors, and providing a framework of evaluating proposals to achieve these goals.

The Sustainable Design Policy is a necessary tool to guide the Town in the design of municipal buildings. I believe the current policy dates from 2005 and does not cover health, resilience or energy aspects. It’s important that the Town models high standards of sustainable design in order to encourage the private sector to follow suit. At the same time, the cost-benefit ratio always needs to be kept in mind to ensure that we are allocating Town funds wisely.

Lastly, I support switching the Town’s electricity supply to 100% renewable. The Community Choice program demonstrated that switching to 100% renewable resulted in a cost savings for residential customers, and I would like to see the Town pursue a similar arrangement when its current three year electricity contract expires later this year.

CLC's Annual Meeting: Watch for the Date

CLC's annual meeting will be held in April. Please check the CLC website (CLCLex.org) for details on the speaker and the date.

Position Available – Walks Coordinator

CLC conducts walks on conservation and other open space lands in Lexington during the Spring and Fall. We are looking for a volunteer to serve as Walks Coordinator. The duties include contacting previous and potential walk leaders to arrange scheduling details, and publicizing the walks through local media outlets and listserves. Participation in bi-monthly board meetings, while beneficial, is not a requirement. Contact Eileen Entin (eileenhome@gmail.com, 781-862-6418).

Events Coordinator: Each year, CLC features a speaker on conservation, resource, or environmental issues. To deepen and enlarge our educational focus, we are seeking a new film/speaker coordinator to take on the tasks of identifying, scheduling, and publicizing videos and speakers. Our plans are to offer 3-4 events per year as an exciting new way for CLC to continue to raise public awareness regarding local, regional and national environmental issues.

For further information on either position, please Contact Eileen Entin (eileenhome@gmail.com, 781-862-6418).

Monthly Trail Walks in Bedford

The Bedford Trails Committee conducts free monthly Trail Walks in Bedford the first Saturday of each month. Trail walks vary monthly, from strolls on flat ground to hikes with hills. For detailed info on current and future hikes, please visit:

<https://groups.google.com/group/bedfordma-trails>