

Energy and Environment Committee Meeting Minutes July 9, 2019

Approved August 6, 2019

Present: Bill Turner, Don Sanders, Jess Waters, Andy DeMeo, Carol Ramsay, Toni Weinstein
Excused: Peter Nelson

The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm.

Approval of Minutes

Don Sanders made the motion to approve the minutes and Bill seconded the motion. All approved with one change as noted by Don Sanders.

Discussion Items:

Newmarket Steam Update

It was pouring the day of the steam test. Don distributed photos from the past 4 weeks.

Follow up needed with Rick Malasky– have they started spraying yet? Is it the strip of sidewalk or the sidewalk and road? When will the spraying happen? Has it happened yet?

Posting should be more extensive.

Update from Dover

Jess Waters contacted Sharon Sirois, the director of grounds Reports are not great so far. Too early to be able to say anything positive. The process is very time consuming and man hours are expensive. Weeds are coming back within 2 weeks. Wand that they made has issues with heat buildup, so back to doing it by hand. They are able to complete 20 ft in 5 minutes—they have 33 miles of curbing in Dover. Demo looks great, but using for long stretches is a problem. Regular employees can use the machine—that's good news. In order to try to make it more effective, they will time the use with street sweeping which is an important factor. They currently sweep once a week.

What are the other options—still looking at infrastructure questions. Rick Malasky said it was aesthetic. Don had shared a Canadian study part of which was focused on managing expectations. Set priorities for where weed control should happen. The committee has questions about the following: 1. Is mowing or weed whacking an option for weed control—put together a proposal for next year. 2. When does the contract get signed for weed control? 3. What outreach can be done? Jess will take a pass at drafting questions for a survey. 4. Glyphosate testing—Toni checked with Sean Grieg and the town does check for glyphosate. This was the response:

The Town of Newmarket samples for glyphosate yearly, It falls under the Semi-Volatiles category in our Chemical Monitoring program. The State has set a 700 ug/L limit or ppb with a detection limit of 25 ug/L. I went back five years through our sampling records and all samples came back ND (non detect).

Jess drafted opt out copy. Toni will send it out to Rick and Steve Fournier. Three places to add opt out message—PW page, Revolving images, Find It Fast section of the website.

EV Station update

The Town will be installing a new EV charging station---Siemens US2 VersiCharge. The committee has many questions, including 1.what company is doing the installation 2.What was the decision making process? Were other locations considered?

Submit an application to Electrify America—Fairly easy application process.
Jess will look at when the next meeting is.

Committee members would like to talk to Steve to get more info. We will set up a meeting for a Monday or Friday afternoon.

Other items to consider with EV Charging stations:
Should we consult Chinburg and other local business owners/developers?
Zoning standards for EV could be effective.

Greenhouse Gas Inventory update

Andy has been researching this and can complete the work as a volunteer. It involves a lot of researching including: Electricity, fleet. Employee travel, fertilizer, animals, school food, solid waste, etc. Next steps—getting in touch with school and wastewater. Andy will talk to Greg Marles and then to the school superintendent.

Living Shoreline - Jess^[1]_{SEP} met with Casey Finch and Patrick Reynolds at Schanda Park. There are significant erosion and stormwater issues as well as flooding concerns. Rocks from the wall have fallen in the water. Heron Point also suffers from erosion, though Schanda park is a bigger issue.. Living Shoreline is an erosion control technique. Usually 15% slope with logs/rocks/slope planted with natural vegetation. There are 2 sites locally—Wagon Hill Farm and Cutts Cove

Stormwater control is also an issue in that area and this could help. A Vegetated buffer would count toward our MS4 permit.

There is some grant funding available and Jess is introducing them to Kirsten Howard at DES.

ReVision Energy potential event

Similar to the Button Up event we had last Fall. ReVision is doing some events in Mass - Solar installations information, test drive a chevy volt, etc. Don will reach out to them to see if they would be willing to do a presentation in Newmarket.

• Adjournment

Minutes submitted by Toni Weinstein