



# City of Medford

Office of Energy and Environment

City Hall Room 205

Medford, MA 02155

781-393-2137 [enviro@medford.org](mailto:enviro@medford.org)

[www.medfordma.org/departments/energy-and-environment/](http://www.medfordma.org/departments/energy-and-environment/)



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## Medford Energy Committee Agenda

April 7, 2014, 6PM

City Hall Room 201

Attendees: Cathy Young, Kathleen McKenna, Jeff Goldsmith, Susan Altman, John Rodgers, Laretta James, Bob Paine, Jonathan Hunt, Curtis Tuden, Alicia Hunt, Sergi Valme

### 1. Administration

- **Approved the Minutes of March 3, 2014**
- **Update of MEC online calendar to track meetings and events (Young)**
  - Did everyone get the invitation? Agreement that will be only for official events and meetings
- **Confirmation of draft ordinance sent to MEC members on 3/10/14 (Altman)** - Everyone in attendance has reviewed and approved the ordinance
- **MEC project advising - status update of draft letter for MEC review (McKneally)** - Luke will draft a letter to the Mayor for the committee to approve about membership involvement with capital projects.

### 2. Guest Speaker - Dr John Perella, Medford High School Headmaster

New partnerships the school has with state and national environmental groups. Wants to get kids out of the classroom and into the environment

Working towards Hands-on outdoor education - trying to have more hands on, outside activities. Want stewardship where kids adopt a section of the woods. Long term vision.

On June 11 professional development day his working group will present to the faculty.

They have an area that needs to be cleaned up, want to work on invasive species.

Questions/ideas from committee:

- Could they have a bike path for kids to commute through woods?
- Motion activated, solar powered camera in the woods to allow observation and remote education? Would also provide security and safety and ties in renewable energy.

April 17th, 2:30pm - their next meeting. Please email Dr Perella if you'd like to be involved.

### 3. Planning & Policy/Cross-Mission

- **Discussion of the Mayor's long term goal of a Renewable Energy Park. (Young)**

Preferred Location: River bend park - where to start?

- Wind turbine



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- Greenhouse (mayor working on public private partnership)
- Solar house (scaled down)
- Solar on building & over parking lot

How do you make it into an educational experience for the kids?

Make sure we have the big picture up front so that we do not box ourselves out of doing things.

Cathy recommends we create a subcommittee to work on it, approved

The subcommittee will put together a concept paper that can be used to solicit support from Tufts and others.

Members: Laretta, Jonathan, Curtis, Kathleen, Bob, Sergi,

- **LEAP – Review list of goals and update for 2014 (Young, McKneally)**  
Tabled
- **Potential opportunities for Medford under Governor’s new Climate Change Plan (Young) –**

Alicia discussed upcoming grant opportunity from the state. It will be aimed at climate resiliency. We have been told to expect the ability to apply for grant money to fund renewable energy that can be used off grid and that is connected to local storage. All submitted projects will have to be for critical infrastructure buildings. We want to do solar on our schools, which are designated shelters, so we will look at including off-grid capabilities and storage. Alicia will speak with Karen Rose, who coordinates disaster planning in Medford.

#### **4. Update on 2014 Active Subcommittees**

##### **Review info for new spreadsheet which lists goals and objectives for each subcommittee (Young)**

Please review the google doc spreadsheet of e subcommittees to make sure it is accurate. Everyone should have the ability to edit it. Please keep it updated and everyone should always be able to see it.

- **2014 Subcommittee Status Updates:**

**a) Education - (Tuden)** Education subcommittee hasn't met this month. There is a doodle poll to see when people can meet. Curtis used the gift certificates to get 1 more kill-a-watt meter and 6 extension cores to make them easier to read. The USGBC donated 3 more and educational material to the school. Alicia reminded them that we have Kill-a-watt meters along with manuals at the library for loan.



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## MHS Earth Day

Does the MEC want to have a table to talk about our activities? It will be all week for the week after school vacation. Curtis will have a table about the kill a watt meters and will try to recruit more kids for the environmental club. Mostly lunch times

USGBC Green Apple Day of Service in September - consider doing something for that

**b) Recycling (Altman)** Emailed the minutes from the recycling subcommittee meeting. Can send ideas directly to Susan, or come to next subcommittee meeting.

**c) Green Awards - (Goldsmith)** Deadline date for applications is the first week of Sept. Currently getting the applications set up, trying to get best time to announce it. Meeting after this meeting on how to market the program.

**d) Harvest Your Energy - (A. Hunt)** Met last Wed, made a timeline - going backwards - of the timing for the event, we believe it was sent around via email.

Discussed creating a new website because of the difficulty updating the new City site. Do we have a list of tasks that people need to do?

- Invite your friends and neighbors (save the date flyer being created)
- Recruit business to exhibit and donate (letter and form being drafted)

HYEF preparation timeline from subcommittee notes:

mid-April

- Alicia develop a 1/3 sheet flyer (based on one from several years ago) that can be distributed at events in April & June (Farmers Market event 4/26, Green Circle the Square 6/20, Environmental Film Festival 6/21-23).

- Laretta reviewing the intro letter and exhibitor form for updates for 2014 and to include donation/giveaway solicitations.

- Jeff will review the website and consider a version of the letter appropriate to go to Green Award recipients

mid-June

- generic full-page flyer for events and hanging around the city

Sept 12th

- deadline for sponsors and events to be on the "official" flyer

October 5th

- deadline for sponsors and donations to be in the passport

October 10th



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- deadline for tables and donations

October 18 11am-2pm - Festival

Next meeting is April 23rd

### 5. General Outreach & Communication

- **Blog post updates** Susan has drafts from Sergi and Bob that she hasn't put up yet. Curtis's post is up. Other members are working on posts.
- **Mystic River Watershed activities/Medford Square Cleanup (A. Hunt)** - No large Medford Square cleanup this year on Earth Day. Please support the Friends of the Mystic cleanup.
- **Medford Arts Center - Environmental Art and Film Festival June 20-22, 2014 (A. Hunt/Paine)** Clean up on Wed evening or thurs morning of the burial ground on June 18/19

Please help spread the word about the events.

### 6. New Business

Grace hosting Chasing Ice screening - April 30th at 6:45pm

Approved the draft ordinance to send to the Mayor.

### 7. Adjourn

8:00

For accommodations please call in advance: 781-393-2137 or TTY: 781-393-2516

**MEC mission: To promote policies and actions that improve energy efficiency, encourage conservation, and increase the use of renewable energy to meet our present needs while considering future generations of the Medford community.**