Medford Energy & Environment Committee (MEEC) Agenda
June 7, 2021 @ 6:30 PM
Via Zoom Virtual Meeting Connection (connection information below)

Office of Energy and Environment: Alicia Hunt
Committee Members: Luke McKneally (co-chair), Bob Paine (co-chair), Barry Ingber, Lauretta James, Kathleen McKenna, Nicole Morell, John Rogers, Dave Hampton, Martha Ondras, Jessica Parks, Chris Hogan, Gaston Fiore, Benji Hiller, and Paul Taslimi.

Attendance: Bob Paine (co-chair), Kathleen McKenna, Paul Taslimi, Martha Ondras, Lauretta James, Barry Ingber, Luke McKneally (co-chair), Gaston Fiore, Chris Hogan, Jessica Parks, John Rogers, Nicole Morell, Benji Hiller
Staff: Alicia Hunt, Naina Chawla
Guests: Bruce Kulik

1. Administration 6:30-6:50
   ● Greetings, roll call, and introductions of guests
     o Bruce Kulik - presenting later in the meeting on the Medford Bike Advisory Commission
   ● Review of minutes from May 3, 2021 meeting
     o Minutes approved
   ● Administrative updates from Alicia Hunt
     o Meetings (in person or remote) -- Until June 15 it can remain remote. Post June 15th, the City is awaiting legislation. Governor filed to extend to Sep 1st. We are awaiting whether this will pass. Open Meeting Law has always said that board members must be in person to be present. Working on getting city spaces set up for a hybrid structure (half in person, half remote).
     o Setting meeting date for the summer
       o Depends on what the Committee is interested in doing for future meetings. Also considering locations
       o Location options: 2 conference rooms in City Hall that have the ability to video conference. Public rooms available at Police station, DPW & fire station. However, we don't have Wi-Fi in the police station/fire station
       o August 9 (suggested next date of the summer meeting - will combine July & August into one meeting)

2. Invited presentation by Bruce Kulik, representing the Medford Bike Advisory Commission 6:50 – 7:15
   ● Shared presentation regarding the MBAC

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

**Medford Energy and Environment Committee Mission:** To promote policies and actions that make Medford more sustainable by encouraging resource conservation, improving climate resiliency, and increasing the use of renewables to meet present and future needs of the Medford community.
- History of the Bike Commission (formed in 2013)
- Encourage cycling in Medford
- Bicycle Master Plan created by the commission
- Bicycle Education (Bike rodeos, adult bike rides), Local events
- Liaison with other community/regional orgs
- Major topic of presentation: Bicycle Infrastructure (see presentation for details) (Lanes, regulations/requirements)
- How can the MBAC support MEEC goals?
  - Better infrastructure → More Cyclists → To make Cycling a viable means of transportation
  - Bikes = Equalizer of transportation. In poorer countries, they are used for multiple reasons.
- MBAC Contact shared in presentation
- Bicycle Infrastructure Master Plan shows Bicycle Network map, Corridor Maps [http://www.medfordbikes.org/bike-master-plan.html](http://www.medfordbikes.org/bike-master-plan.html)
- Presentation material will be circulated by Bob to committee members

3. Event planning for 2021 (HYEF) and discussion of the Green Awards program 7:15–7:40
- HYEF
  - It is still scheduled to take place. Alicia is in the middle of hiring an undergrad to coordinate the festival (working on the paperwork)
  - Will plan for indoor rain date
  - If everything remains as it is now, then it will take place. Contingent on COVID-19 situation at the time.
  - Oct 16 (12 - 3 pm)
  - Mystic River Festival - Arts and Cultural Festival will be taking place - September 25th (12 - 4:30 pm)
  - Right now, summer festivals/events are being planned. Fall activities are TBD
- Green Awards
  - Mayor will support it, but it is also ok if the Committee decides against having it
  - Postpone for this year or Cancel?
    - Participation seems like a challenge
    - Sustaining and attracting interest
      - Comes down to Incentives
      - To make people with a casual interest people step up and take note → something in t for them
    - Chris: Will the City be willing to support an incentive (eg tax credit?)
      - Alicia - It is possible to think about incentives, likely not tax credits (legally/politically). Other ideas such as sponsorship of monetary award. However, we need to ask whether it is incentivizing a business or an individual. Would also greatly increase the burden on the Committee to make defensible/good decisions
    - John - originally intended as an educational program. It hasn't been effective at that. maybe we need to shift focus to people who are working to educate others to do what they are doing
    - Martha - educational feature makes sense/throw a party for the awardees
      - Party has been done before
    - Jessica: ways to generate ideas for things to happen? Contest-type/Challenge that fosters community brainstorming
    - Alicia - challenge people to green up their electricity?
  - Likely 2021 this will not happen

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Will discuss at next meeting in August

4. Subcommittee reports and discussions for 2021 activities 7:40-8:05
   - Promoting Solar Energy (Barry, Luke, and Bob)
     o Will be discussed at Aug meeting
   - Tree and Urban Canopy Management (Lauretta, Luke, Martha, and Paul)
     o Will be discussed at Aug meeting
   - Building Energy Management (Dave, Lauretta, Kathleen, Luke, Jessica, Martha, Chris, and Gaston)
     o Will be discussed at Aug meeting
   - Transportation Management (Barry, Bob, Martha, and Gaston)
     o Presentation sent out
   - Energy Educational Forums (Lauretta, Kathleen, Bob, Jessica, Gaston, and Paul)
     o Will be discussed at Aug meeting

5. Presentation by Good Energy on ideas for outreach for 100% renewable electricity signups 8:05-8:20
   - Daria Mark (Good Energy)
     o Daria talks with many towns/cites interested in what the MEEC does -- how to choose a more renewable option
     o Shared presentation on Outreach materials and Support
       ■ Graphics to tell a story
       ■ program website (Medford has one)
       ■ Potentially add goal meter, can serve as tool to act as a landing place. Example shared: Arlington
       ■ public meetings in conjunction with a community plan
       ■ Social media development
       ■ Handouts, flyers, Lawn signs, Banners
     o Opt up to 100% can be added to the office newsletter

6. New Business 8:20-8:30
   No new business at this time

7. Adjourn 8:30

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Community Development is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Energy and Environment Commission Meeting

Time: June 7, 2021 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

https://zoom.us/j/96291215902

Meeting ID: 962 9121 5902

One tap mobile

+19292056099,,96291215902# US (New York)

Dial by your location

   +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 962 9121 5902

Find your local number: https://zoom.us/u/aVXjXTo94

Anyone wishing to send comments or questions to the meeting can send email to enviro@medford-ma.gov

The meeting recording will be available on the committee website within a few days:
https://medfordenergy.org/gogreen/medford-energy-committee/

Pursuant to Governor Baker’s March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, General Laws Chapter 30A, Section 18, and the Governor’s March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the City of Medford Energy & Environment Committee is being conducted via remote participation. No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings as provided for in the Order. Persons who would like to listen to or view this meeting while in progress may do so by accessing the link that was included on the meeting agenda posted on the City of Medford website. If, despite our best efforts, we are not able to provide for real-time access, we will post a record of this meeting on the city’s website in the near future at the link provided in the meeting agenda.

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Medford Energy and Environment Committee Members

Luke McKneally (co-chair): registered architect with in-depth experience in energy-efficient, environmentally responsive design and the use of renewable energy in buildings. He is an Energy Engineer at ICF, implementing MassSave Passive House incentives for multifamily development in Massachusetts to encourage best practices and the highest performance possible with minimal project cost implications.

Bob Paine (co-chair): Certified Consulting Meteorologist and Qualified Environmental Professional. Experience in meteorology and air pollution studies and consulting. Associate Vice President at AECOM, a company that focuses on areas of air quality consulting, engineering, and compliance, climate adaptation, and PFAS mitigation. Bob has been a member of this committee and legacy municipal committees (e.g., wind turbine committee) since 2004.

Barry Ingber: has spent most of the past four decades with non-profit organizations that serve low-income communities and work for a more sustainable and affordable energy future. Most recently, he managed energy programs for Tri-City Community Action Program. Previously, as Executive Director of MassEnergy, he founded the state’s first and largest green power program, and the nation’s first non-profit renewable energy coop.

Lauretta James: is a real estate agent and Realtor®. She works within the Committee to design and promote energy, sustainability, and environmental programs and events to educate and benefit residents and businesses. Her background includes working in the elevator industry, event organizing, and art and design. She was previously President of the Massachusetts Elevator Safety Association.

Kathleen McKenna: environmental engineer at Commercial Construction Consulting, Inc. (C3), which deals with LEED and sustainability consulting, energy audits, and implementation. She is secretary of the New England Chapter of The Association of Energy Engineers. Kathleen served in the role of community solar coach for the very successful 2013 Solarize Mass Program, when she coordinated the community outreach process, answered questions from residents and businesses, and was the main point of contact for community members.

Nicole Morell: currently a member of the Medford City Council. She is the communications specialist in the MIT Office of Sustainability where she is tasked with educating and engaging the community in campus sustainability efforts focused on emissions, climate resiliency, materials management, and more. Nicole has volunteered for many campaigns for progressive candidates and issues and joined the committee to help advance Medford’s green future and protect its many green spaces.

John Rogers: extensive background in energy conversion (motors, batteries, chargers, power grid, electric vehicles). With Solectria, he worked on the electrical system for the “Solectria Sunrise” EV and on their Grid Tied Solar Inverters. With Azure Dynamics, he worked on a Ford E250 Electric Van Prototype and on the onboard charging system for Ford’s Transit Connect Electric. He now works for Instrumentation Laboratory - Bedford, MA.

Dave Hampton: Climate Resilience Associate at The Cadmus Group, practicing at the intersection of climate adaptation, international development, and resiliency planning with

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20+ years’ experience in architecture, planning, and construction. His experience includes post-disaster recovery, sustainable development, humanitarian design, living systems integration, high-performance energy-efficient buildings, and materials reuse. His work brings people, nature, and the built environment together to adapt to a changing climate.

Martha Ondras: with a Master’s degree in environmental health at Tufts, she is a research associate at the Health Effects Institute (HEI) in Boston, working on air quality research. HEI provides high quality, trusted science for cleaner air and better health. Prior to pursuing a second career in environmental health, she retired from the post of Director of Design at Harvard Business School.

Jessica Parks: with a background in sustainable design and urban planning, she has experience in developing greenhouse gas reduction plans, driving energy efficiency projects, and establishing energy reporting protocols. She is currently a Senior Project Manager at MIT for projects under the campus-wide Greenhouse Gas (GHG) program. Jessica hopes to utilize her experience and expertise to help create opportunities for community engagement and education in support of a more sustainable and resilient Medford.

Chris Hogan: Construction Program Manager at Tufts University. Working in support of Tufts’ goal of Carbon Neutrality by the year 2050, Chris’ projects are tasked with the study and implementation of energy reducing strategies within buildings of varying usage types. (i.e. – research labs, wood frame housing, dining facilities, etc.). A 20-year Medford resident, Chris is excited to serve on the committee to help promote the shared goals of Tufts and the City of Medford in their pursuit of a cleaner energy future.

Gaston Fiore: Gaston believes that an environmental education campaign leveraging our youth, encouraging active forms of transportation (pedestrian and bicycle), and making green technologies reachable to low-income households are key to achieving world-class environmental sustainability for Medford. Gaston has a background in AI and machine learning and has experience in self-driving cars and demand modeling to medicine. He has BS and MS degrees in Aerospace Engineering from MIT, and an MS in Computer Science from Harvard.

Benjamin (“Benjie”) Hiller: (to be provided)

Paul Taslimi: (to be provided)

Medford Energy and Environment Committee Municipal Staff

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Alicia Hunt: Director of Energy & the Environment as well as the Environmental Agent for the City of Medford. Alicia started working with the city in 2010 as the Energy Efficiency Coordinator and has done a lot of energy efficiency work on the City's buildings. She facilitated the City's Green Communities designation and works to bring in energy and environment related grants and programs to the City of Medford. Alicia is a Medford resident who brings her green knowledge to other Medford organizations in her spare time.

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