Medford Energy & Environment Committee (MEEC) Agenda
November 2, 2020 @ 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, and Jessica Parks

Attendance: Bob Paine, Nicole Morrell, Luke McKneally, Dave Hampton, Barry Ingber, Jessica Parks, Kathleen McKenna, Martha Ondras
Staff: Alicia Hunt, Ali Hiple
Guests: Sam Glaser - Tufts Energy Group

1. Administration 6:30-6:50

- Greetings, roll call, and introductory remarks
  - Meeting called to order at 6:43 pm
- Review of minutes from October 7, 2020 meeting
  - On a motion by Barry, seconded by Bob, approved by a vote of 5 with one abstention by Nicole (who was not present at the Oct 7 meeting)
- Administrative update and dealing with the coronavirus issues
  - Alicia gave an update: no major changes since last month. Mayor is closely monitoring the situation given the current increase in cases, no change to staffing etc. yet
  - Encouraged everyone to sign up for city's robocall/email alert system

2. Review of Cancelled Harvest Your Energy Walkthrough Vendor Fair – October 17, 2020 - 6:49 pm 6:50-7:00

- Event was cancelled due to rain and flooding
- Set up a website with info on all the businesses that were supposed to be there, so that people can still learn about and support them - https://medfordenergy.org/gogreen/elementor-6218/
- Alicia showed a picture she took of the site that morning showing major flooding over the path where the walkthrough was set up to be
- Shredding event this saturday from 11-2 at Medford High School
- Jointly hosted with Council on Aging
- Medford Boy Scouts looking into electronics recycling for April

Leaf Blower Ordinance - 6:53 pm

- Nicole: focus on battery powering for an ordinance, asking for a moratorium on leaf blowers in

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

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general may be less successful
- possibly look into grants/funding to support
- Luke agreed that it could be better to push positive support for better solutions rather than a ban/punitive approach
- Challenge presently: more people noticing the sound now, being home during the pandemic, but also want to be mindful of not adding another hardship to small businesses at the moment
- Nicole: explore connection with Bloomberg foundation, Nicole noted that Bloomberg's family house is maintained with battery powered leaf blowers
- Dave asked whether this is tied to Medford's noise ordinance, which allows noise to start after 7 AM, suggested pushing this time back later to perhaps 8 AM given everyone being at home during the pandemic
- Nicole or anyone else will provide updates in the future

3. Focus on the Tufts Energy Group – discussion by Sam Glaser  7:00–7:20 (7:03 pm)
- TEG: mainly undergraduates trying to promote renewable and clean energy on campus, engage and educate students
- Past projects: promote solar; added solar panels to a residence hall (Hodgdon) - 2018; worked with Sustainability at Tufts in building their community housing (CoHo), TEG worked with them to build in energy efficiency features to these buildings; this year focusing on the Green Fund: Tufts funding for green projects. One goal was to focus on EV charging and may still apply for that next year
- Also do tours of relevant projects/work around the area (i.e. Greentown Labs)
- Focusing on pre-career events: guest speakers, resume workshops, Q&As
- Tufts Energy Conference: typically held in the spring semester (end of Feb) over 3 days, mostly run separately by a conference committee now but still overlap and support each other
  - this year’s theme is “tipping points”
  - typically some big speakers and other smaller scale events like workshops, group discussions, etc.
  - Luke: MassSave provides incentives for energy efficient buildings, he and colleagues could talk about this work at the conference (i.e. Passive House)
- Renewable Energy Project (name?) - goal of bringing together different other groups on campus
- Want to add a renewable energy minor - building support for this right now

4. Energy and Environment Educational Forum – November 18, 2020  7:20-7:40
- Ali showed registration page for Zoom webinar, asked for feedback from committee by Wednesday
- Link will be shared in Facebook event, and email will be drafted and sent, Alicia encouraged sharing far and wide

5. Review of Supporting Letter for DCR Grant Application by Aggie Tuden and Trees Medford  7:40–8:00
- Trees Medford contacted Luke - letter of support for grant for Trees Medford (individual names of Committee members), says the Committee supports Aggie Tuden’s and Trees Medford goal of putting together an inventory of Medford’s trees
- Letter has been sent around to Committee

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6. New Business: Starting to Look Ahead to 2021 with Subcommittee Reports 8:00-8:30

- Shared Paths/Trails updates from Alicia:
  - Clippership Connector expected to go out to bid this winter for construction this spring, DCR and federal money will be used for this, no additional funding needed from Medford
  - Grant from Mass Gaming Commission for walk/bike underpass under Rt 28 to connect Station's Landing and MacDonald Park
  - Main Street and South Street intersection - dangerous intersection, MassDOT will be designing (and paying for) improvement
- Nicole: City Council approved CPA small grant fund for Oak Grove Cemetery
- Priorities for Committee for 2021:
  - Alicia may ask Mayor to join a meeting in the future, discuss her priorities
  - In the December meeting, plan for Committee to discuss priorities first, and then meet Jan 4 with Mayor
- Promoting Solar Energy (Barry, Luke, and Bob)
- Tree and Urban Canopy Management (Lauretta, Luke, and Martha)
- Energy Educational Forums (Lauretta, Kathleen, Bob, and Jessica)
- Building Energy Management (Dave, Lauretta, Kathleen, Luke, Jessica, and Martha)
  - Luke will coordinate with committee members separately to plan for future work and updates to the mayor
- Transportation Management (Barry, Bob, and Martha)
  - Martha: DCR doing a master plan for connectivity for parkland along river (access to the parks and trails from nearby communities) - target for finishing it this winter
  - Jeff Parente at DCR running this
  - Nicole noted that the High Street and Mystic Valley Parkway rotary had recently come up at a City Council meeting, Nicole also in touch with Amber Christofferson at MyRWA about this
- Alicia mentioned there were 8 proposals received for the master plan

7. Adjourn 8:30

- Adjourned at 8:20 pm

Community Development is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Time: November 2, 2020 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

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, G.L. c. 30A, §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 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.
Order. A reminder that 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/town’s website as soon as we are able.

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Medford Energy and Environment Committee Members

Luke McKneally (co-chair): Licensed Architect and Certified Passive House Consultant in Massachusetts, with over 25 years of experience in commercial, institutional, and residential building design and construction, including in commercial and residential energy efficiency consulting, and in renewable energy systems design and project management. Luke works with ICF International to manage the Mass Save High Rise and Passive House residential new construction incentives for energy efficient development.

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.

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.

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Nicole Morell: currently a member of the Medford City Council. She is a social media manager at MIT. Her work often touches on environmental and energy issues as she works to share news and tech developments and stay abreast of the newest advances in these areas. She 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 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: Master’s candidate in environmental health at Tufts. She is also 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: has extensive experience to develop greenhouse gas reduction plans, implement energy efficiency projects, establish energy reporting protocols, and create opportunities for occupant engagement and education. She is currently a Senior Project Manager for Energy Efficiency projects at MIT, supporting campus GHG reduction efforts. She holds a B.A. from Bennington College in Ecology and Architecture, and a Master of Urban and Regional Planning with a focus on Sustainable Development from the University of Michigan.

Medford Energy and Environment Committee Municipal Staff

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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