Medford Energy & Environment Committee (MEEC) Agenda
December 7, 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, Luke, Martha, Jessica, Kathleen, Barry
Staff: Alicia, Ali
Guests: Sam Glaser of Tufts Energy Group

1. Administration 6:30-6:50
   - called to order 6:38
   - Minutes from Nov 2 approved
   - Alicia update: City Hall is still updating the way it has been (50% staffing), despite increasing Covid numbers
   - Jingle Bell Festival: Alicia hasn't heard anything specific about the festival, but doesn't appear to be happening

2. Committee Organization Matters – Looking Ahead to 2021 6:50-7:10
   - approx 6:45 pm
   - Each December, we review committee membership and officer issues for next year.
   - Committee chair / co-chairs: current arrangement with Bob Paine and Luke McKneally can continue, but if any committee member is interested in being a chair or co-chair, please indicate that interest at the meeting and consider making a brief statement of interest. After discussion, the committee can vote on the chair / co-chairs for 2021.
     - Bob Paine and Luke McKneally will continue as Chair and Co-Chair, no members objected to continuing the current arrangement.
   - Number of committee members: with the current even number (10), we need 6 to make a quorum, but if we had one more (for a total of 11), then we would still need just 6, and have a better chance to make quorum (we have had several close calls this year). We will discuss whether to add a member, ask for candidate recommendations if this is favorably considered, and take a vote on this issue.
     - Mayor prefers to conduct a public application, and have committee members review applications and make recommendations to the Mayor for her appointment
     - Barry and other members expressed an interest in expanding the committee beyond 11 members to encourage more diversity, recommended to add 3 more members. The

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committee also discussed one new member named Benji who had expressed interest.

- On a motion by Barry, seconded by Luke, with all in favor, the board voted to recommend to the Mayor to add three members to the committee with a goal of increasing diversity in membership, and recommended that Benji be included as one new member.

- Interest of each committee member to continue serving on the committee through 2021: each current committee member should send an e-mail to Alicia Hunt with a copy to the current co-chairs to confirm that they intend to continue their status as member of the committee in 2021. Being a member implies a willingness / intention to try to attend most of the monthly meetings.


- approx 7:10 pm
- Sam Glaser or his associate will provide an overview of the conference planning for 2021, review the preliminary agenda, and indicate how committee members and Medford residents can attend.
  - Sam said the main goal is still lining up content/speakers
  - There are planning subgroups based around topic, and groups are currently each lining up their own speakers/content
  - Date: Feb 25-27 (Thursday through Saturday)
  - Ticketing: price will be lower than in previous years, but open to the public. May be free for students and a small charge for others

- We will continue to feature short updates on this event at upcoming committee meetings.
  - Sam will join Jan 4 meeting, and Feb 1 meeting will be last MEEC meeting before the conference

- Should our committee have a virtual booth at the event? If so, what to put into the booth? There may be a fee associated with the booth.
  - possibility of coordination with Medford to publicize, etc.
  - Virtual booths: using breakout rooms for networking, possibly. Alicia also pointed to the Go Green Medford “Green and Local Walkthrough” page which highlights information from local businesses in light of the 2020 Walkthrough having been cancelled


- 6:56 pm
- There was a maximum attendee count of 31
- There was discussion of breaking up the recording by topic for easy sharing
- Discussion about appropriate audience for a future webinar, and about how to best organize other webinars in the future
  - What is the appropriate length? should it be focused on one topic or include multiple?

5. Planning for Meeting with the Mayor at the next Meeting (1/4/21) 7:30–8:00

- Review of 2020 committee activities (co-chairs need to draft this document or presentation)
- Each subcommittee could be represented in this presentation and should be prepared to contribute during December with a couple of slides (or review draft slides before 1/4/21)
  - Each subcommittee should be prepared to give a brief update to the Mayor
- Additional discussion for engaging with the Mayor
  - Goal will be to share highlights from the Committee’s work over the years, introduce the Mayor to them and their work

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o Also to get direction from the Mayor as to what her priorities are for the City in terms of energy and environmental issues

6. Odd and Ends / New Business 8:00-8:30
   - Alicia gave an update on a developer that may be coming into the City at the site of the former Whole Foods Bakery. She will be meeting with the developer to discuss the solar ordinance and how it may apply to the project site.
   - 30 Salem St in Medford Square is also getting a renovation and will fall under the solar ordinance
   - Additionally, a zoning consultant is currently reviewing the City’s zoning ordinance in coordination with the City Council, and the consultant proposes moving the solar ordinance in with Zoning.

7. Adjourn 8:30

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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 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 to.

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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.

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: has experience in business management, sales, event organizing and art & design. Previously, she was president of the MA Elevator Safety Association, on the Board of Directors of Mobius artist group and owner of a service business. She has worked with the MA Dept. of Public Safety and other groups to promote their causes. She has Professional Florist Training from Cass Florist School and is a MA Real Estate Agent.

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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