

Dedham Sustainability Advisory Committee

Minutes of Meeting

November 9, 2022

Attending from the Committee were Leigh Hafrey, Deb Harrison, Andrew Belden, Emily Walton, Chuck Kabat and Michael de Winter; from Town of Dedham, Assistant Conservation Agent Patrick Hogan.

Meeting started at 7:00 PM and a new Dedham resident joined as well. Topics included:

1. Discussion around current Dedham police department building, Dedham square green space community coalition, and how the Committee can get more involved in an advisory capacity. Patrick plans to learn more on behalf of the Committee's request and share information at a following meeting.
2. The Committee will review a draft letter of support from Charles River Watershed Association regarding the Watertown Dam project. At last month's meeting, CRA asked the Committee to support its project after a presentation on the Charles River ecosystem.
3. The Committee discussed its review of Dedham's established Climate Action Plan, crafted by the town's former environmental officer and consulting firm KLA, and which of its many goals could be prioritized in the near term. Two rose to the top:
 - a. Environmental building standards for municipal retrofits and new buildings.
 - b. Tree canopy expansion. Chuck is following up with Joe Flannagan, Dedham DPW, to learn more about existing tree canopy guidelines.
4. Patrick led a conversation around Committee membership, confirming eight at-large members and one Select Board appointee. The Committee is currently full with eight members.
5. The Committee discussed its election of officers—Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and Clerk—and agreed that at this time, the role of Chair and others will rotate.

Committee and Patrick agreed to December 14 as its next meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

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