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**Sustainability Advisory Committee Meeting**

**February 8, 2017**

**Present:** Chuck Kabat, John Gorham, Jon Briggs, Leigh Hafrey and Virginia LeClair, Environmental Coordinator

**Guests:** Matt Spurs, Dedham resident and Level Solar employee

John Gorham opened the meeting of February 8, 2017.

**Approval of Minutes**

L. Hafrey made a motion to accept the minutes of 1.11.17. C. Kabat second. All in favor.

Earth Day/Arbor Day/Recycling Event Planning

**Arbor Day**

The Committee agreed that the Schools should be involved in all of these events. V. LeClair will send flyers to the Schools and specifically to the Youth Commission.

The Committee needs to find out from Joe Flanagan, DPW Director the cost/tree and if there are any funds for tree planting. We also need to find out if he was able to talk with Eversource about the Arbor Day Program and if Eversource agreed to grant funds for the purchase of trees for a resident tree planting project. V. LeClair mentioned that there is an Eagle Scout candidate who is interested in a project and the Committee discussed, if funded, the Arbor Day tree planting could be a good project for him.

The Committee next reviewed the schedule for Arbor Day:

**Thursday, April 27th - 7pm, Endicott Estate**

**7:00pm-7:30** Arborists from Bartlett Tree Experts will present on Invasive Species

and Tree Care

**7:30pm-8:15pm** Noel O’Shea, Director National Parks, Dublin Ireland

**8:15pm-8:30pm** Q&A

The Committee noted that we need to narrow down what Mr. O’Shea will be presenting on as he offered a wide range of topics. We need to widely promote this event.

**Friday, April 28th, Endicott Estate or Elementary Schools**

The Sustainability Committee would prefer to have the event at an elementary school like the Avery, where it has easy access by the High School and Middle School for Arbor Day demonstrations such as tree planting and climbing. The other option is at the Endicott Estate, but the Committee felt it would be harder to get the schools there.

**Earth Day/Recycling Events**

 **Saturday, April 29th**

 **9:00am-12:00pm** Charles River Watershed Association cleanup (CRWA)

 **9:00am-12:00pm** Sustainability Advisory Committee and Rotary Club Recycle Day

 at Dedham Middle School, 70 Whiting Avenue

The Charles River Watershed Association cleanup is being done in conjunction with V. LeClair’s office and sites throughout Town, along with community groups are being chosen. The Town has several areas that community groups clean annually.

The Committee thought as part of Earth Week to hold the Recycling Event on the same day as the cleanup. V. LeClair will confirm with Save that Stuff for foam recycling and reserve the DMS. Jon Briggs will reach out to Dan Hart to coordinate with them to get the Avery can drive to join our event. Chuck will promote the event for us. J. Gorham will check with Brian from Shred it for paper recycling and electronics.

**Polystyrene Ban Discussion**

This was tabled until the next meeting

**Renewable Energy Fund Discussions**

V. LeClair updated the Committee that there is now a fund where the money from the SREC’s sale is deposited into and this fund can be used for energy efficiency upgrades. The Committee approved at this meeting the use of $8,000 from this fund to replace T8 bulbs with LED bulbs throughout Town buildings (excluding Town Hall, which will be raised for the new Police/Fire Building). The Committee also approved the use of funds for updated exterior lighting at all of the schools that would upgrade lighting to LED technology.

V. LeClair will provide the Committee with a summary of earnings from SRECs.

**Old/New Business**

* V. LeCLair will email Rich McGuinness and Leigh Hafrey to set up a meeting with Town Officials on the Environmental Checklist.
* V. LeClair informed the Committee of the award of a UNH Fellow to assist with GHG inventory and the outline of a climate action plan.
* The Committee briefly explored the Solarize Mass program with Matt Spurs, Dedham resident and employee of Level Solar. Matt suggested having his partner from Level Solar present on the topic at our next meeting.

**Adjourn**

J. Briggs motioned to adjourn. C. Kabat second. All in favor.