

Dedham Sustainability Advisory Committee

Minutes of Meeting

January 10, 2023

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

Meeting started at 7:00 PM and three Dedham residents joined as guests. Topics included:

1. The Committee reviewed and approved a letter of support from Charles River Watershed Association regarding the Watertown Dam project. At a fall meeting, CRA asked the Committee to support its project after a presentation on the Charles River ecosystem. (Subsequently, the letter was sent by Patrick Hogan on behalf of the Committee.)
2. The next discussion was about Dedham Square Greenspace, a town subcommittee focused on the future use of the Dedham Police Department building site. Deb Harrison agreed to reach out to this subcommittee to gauge our future involvement and consultation.
3. Tree canopy guidelines—the Committee hopes to drive education and engagement and will work with the Department of Public Works and Joe Flanagan to learn more and see where it can advise and lead.
4. It was mentioned that Joe Flanagan would like to play a larger role/partnership with the Committee which was universally welcomed by all.
5. Committee members Michael De Winter and Emily Walton recapped their conversation with Denise Maroney, Dedham Facilities Department. Denise is still hoping to partner with Solect Energy of Hopkinton to identify potential town solar projects. Raised was the topic of the Committee getting more engaged with the town's School Building Rehabilitation Committee, and staying closely connected to Denise's efforts—which the Committee supports.
6. Patrick Hogan informed Committee that Town Engineer Jason Mammone is seeking Dedham involvement in virtual regional meetings with other towns regarding climate change. This would be part of Municipal Vulnerability

Preparedness (MVP) for the Greater Boston region. Several members agreed to support this idea and participation.

7. Committee agreed to evangelize the Dedham Climate Action Plan to the greater town community and to stakeholders, such as town department heads, who own elements of its goals and activities.

Committee and Patrick Hogan agreed to February 8 as its next meeting and Emily Walton will chair. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

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