

**Sustainability Advisory Committee Meeting
March 7, 2016**

Present: Deb Harrison, Carol Hills, Chuck Kabat, John Gorham, Rich McGuinness, and Virginia LeClair, Environmental Coordinator

Guest: Pat Scanlon, Scanlon Associates

D. Harrison called the meeting of 3/7/16 to order as the Vice Chair.

Approval of Minutes

C. Kabat made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of January 4, 2016. C. Hills second. All in favor.

Pat Scanlon, Scanlon Associates re: Mercury Rebate Program

V. LeClair introduced Pat Scanlon of Scanlon Associates, a consultant for Wheelabrator Technologies who we work with on our Mercury Recovery program. P. Scanlon discussed the dangers of mercury as a heavy metal and the concerns that the DEP and EPA have with the material. He explained that there are many bodies of water in MA contaminated with heavy metals and there is an urgency to get this product out of the waste stream.

P. Scanlon is a consultant for our recycling and waste hauler, Waste Management. The program is run through Wheelabrator, which Waste Management owns. He discussed the items that they take through this program – thermostats, button cell batteries, barometers, fluorescent lamps and bulk mercury.

The Town of Dedham has a mercury shed, provided free to the Town through this program, located at the Transfer Station. The Transfer Station is open to residents Saturdays 9-12pm. P. Scanlon would like to see more hours and availability provided to residents.

The Sustainability Advisory Committee is the recipients of the funds from the Button Cell Battery collection and rebate program. The Committee earns \$100/lb for recycling of button cell batteries. This year the Committee earned \$310.00.

The Committee discussed ways they could improve the mercury collection program in Dedham:

- Provide a Button Cell Battery box to the Council on Aging for collection
- Take a pail to our bi-annual recycling event for collection of mercury
- See if the Fire Department would accept a pail for 24hour drop off of mercury

Goals 2016

The Committee reviewed the goals that were discussed at the previous meeting and brainstormed additional goals such as a ban on Styrofoam and plastic bags, creating standards for new construction and major renovation for municipal buildings, continuing with the bi-annual recycling event, as well as ramping up the green business program with a focus on Dedham Square. The Committee hopes to finalize and approve these goals at the April 4th meeting.

Climate Change Preparedness & Resiliency Checklist

R. McGuinness reviewed the Climate Change Preparedness and Resiliency Checklist and discussed ways it could apply to Dedham. The Committee will focus on this as part of their goals for 2016. V. LeClair suggested that she review this checklist with the Building Commissioner, Planning Director and Economic Development Director. This would be just for tracking purposes, not enforcement or compliance.

Old/New Business*

- NESEA Conference
V. LeClair will be attending the NESEA Build Boston conference tomorrow and is looking forward to a workshop focused on Building Net Zero communities. The City of Cambridge will be highlighted at this workshop.

- May 14th Recycling Collection Event
The Committee reviewed a press release V. LeClair had prepared on the May 14th collection event. C. Kabat will revise it and send it to the papers. C. Hills offered to contact the Scrap Metal company to secure the date and J. Gorham will contact the company regarding paper shredding and electronics to secure them as well.

Adjourn

C. Hills made a motion to adjourn. R. McGuinness second. All in favor.
Next meeting April 4, 2016.