



Minutes

AGAB and Town Departments Workshop

Wednesday, January 19, 2022 7:00 pm

WEBEX URL

<https://andover.webex.com/andover/j.php?MTID=mfc398843d802cd8e993c09784f3304d8>

Meeting number: 2330 232 7992

Password: s2KcWSeip74

Join by phone: +1-408-418-9388

Access code: 233 023 27992

In Attendance:

AGAB: Harry Voorhees, Melanie Cutler, Amy Latva-Kokko, Maria Bartlett, Willow Cheeley, Jon Unger, Beth Rasmussen

Town Employees: Andrew Flanagan, Joyce Losick-Yang, Lisa Schwarz, Carlos Jaquez, Patrick Keefe, Paul Materazzo, Stephanie Smith, Tom Carbone, Mike Lindstom, Michael Mansfield, Tony Collins

Others: Amy Janovsky, Candy Dann, Susan Stott, Mary Pritchard

1. 2022 Sustainability Goals Workshop with Town Manager and Departments

Andrew Flanagan - Town's Goal-setting process

- Goal is to align the work of AGAB with the wider town's strategic goals and objectives for both the Town Manager and the Select Board
- The goals become incorporated into the town's and departments' operating plans
- Want to align the priorities of AGAB with the goals of the Board and Town Manager's Office
- July 1 - June 30 = fiscal year, then evaluation
- Town's Major Goal Areas
 - Admin and finance
 - Citizen response management and engagement
 - Capital improvements
 - Downtown, HMD,

- Sustainability
- Equity and Inclusion
- Process
 - Develop draft goals and objectives, board review and public input, adoption of strategic goals and objectives, align with department operating plans
- Last year, align work on development of a climate and sustainability action plan
- Work with AGAB on designing structure of CCA plan
- Work with AGAB on the MVP grant program
- Examples of past collaboration with AGAB:
 - Solar bylaw, West EI/Shawsheen preschool, downtown parking lot project, Facilities Department / Green Communities
- Further align town's sustainability goals with a workshop with AGAB tonight (1/19/22)

Harry Voorhees - AGAB's Proposed Goals

- Focus on short-term goals (6 months) and long term goals
- Focus goals on climate action
 - MA Next-Generation Climate Roadmap (2021)
 - Reduce GHG emissions: net-zero GHG by 2050, halfway there by 2030
 - Net-zero stretch building code
 - Renewable energy incentives
 - MA Hazard Mitigation and Climate Adaptation Plan (2018)
 - Reduce vulnerability due to flooding, severe weather, power outages, public health threats
- Joyce collected data on GHG emission sources
 - Most from buildings and passenger vehicles
 - Of buildings, greatest percentage is from commercial, industrial and residential buildings
 - Of transportation, most emissions are from passenger vehicles
- What can the town do?
 - Advocacy, incentives, laws, municipal and public infrastructure
- **7 proposed new near-term (2022) sustainability goals for the town:**
 - **1. Secure Select Board approval for C-PACE** (Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy), company obtains long-term financing for clean energy improvements, repaid via property tax assessments.
 - **2. Apply for funding to mitigate climate risks.** Funding from infrastructure Bill, FEMA, and/or BBB to address flooding, power security, emergency shelter, public health risks
 - **3. Figure out how to launch programs to help residents convert to heat pumps.** Abode Energy advisory program for Cambridge Residents. MetroWest Clean Energy Challenge = bulk purchase of heat pumps. Provide consultation to help residents convert to heat pumps.
 - **4. Support adoption of Net Zero Energy Stretch Code.** Join other towns in officially supporting its development and adoption.

- **5. Start a Sustainability Bylaw Task Force to address resiliency and energy issues.** Ex. ban new development in 100-year flood plains, require EV chargers in new multi-family and commercial developments.
 - **6. Adopt a Complete Streets Policy.** A working group led by the Planning Dept. has submitted a draft policy to DPW for review.
 - **7. Adopt a Comprehensive Tree Policy** to mitigate heat island effect and sequester carbon from the atmosphere.
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- Suggestion - develop a timeline for each of the 7 goals.
 - Final adoption of goals will be voted on by AGAB.
 - Andrew, Mike, and Joyce feel that many of the goals are attainable and some are already in progress.
 - Joyce noted that goals should be opened up to community dialogue before establishment.
 - There are other goals, beside the main 7 presented, that the town and AGAB can also work together on. Ex. Hazard mitigation plan
 - Andrew commented on his perceived attainability of the goals (all seem attainable with more or less effort), would like to learn more about some of them
 - Paul is excited about the C-PACE goal and the Sustainability By-Law Task Force, maybe a subset of AGAB?
 - Tomorrow, town's leadership team will discuss the outcome of this workshop. Will suggest some timelines for each goal.
 - Town is planning to adopt their goals on Monday. One goal will be to continue to work with AGAB on sustainability goals.
 - Mary Prtichard (Andover WECAN) - Planning a Sustainability Fair in town, will bring in vendors and installers of heat pumps and other energy efficiency equipment. WECAN can help with the education.
 - Waste reduction is part of GHG reduction because it is a product of consumption. Includes a huge amount of embedded energy. Waste tells a story about Andover's consumption data.
 - Amy Janovsky - Public needs help with choosing HVAC equipment, can be confusing. Not always possible, according to fire code. Ex. new high efficiency systems don't always meet fire code. Also, could town adopt the Community Preservation Act? Lots of grant money available.
 - Town will work on fleshing out goals and developing timelines and then will come to a future AGAB meeting to present.
 - Both AGAB members and town officials expressed appreciation for the opportunity to work together.

Comments from the Chat:

from Amy Janovsky to everyone: 7:41 PM

Perhaps AGAB could consider whether the Community Preservation Act could be part of the funding picture moving forward. Available funds have never been higher and if AGAB could help create public interest, it seems that Andover could put this funding to good use.

from Amy Latva-Kokko to everyone: 7:43 PM

Here's the letter I mentioned:

from Amy Latva-Kokko to everyone: 7:43 PM

<https://www.arlingtonma.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/58866/637737983592470000>

Pursuant to S.2475 "An Act Relative to Extending Certain COVID-19 Measures Adopted During the State of Emergency," which was enacted into law on June 16, 2021, this meeting of the Andover Green Advisory Board will be conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent possible.

Members of the public who wish to participate in the meeting can do so by calling 978-623-8912, or by emailing joyce.losickyang@andoverma.us. Residents are encouraged to email their questions or comments ahead of the meeting – however, staff will be available to present the Andover Green Advisory Board with questions and comments received during the meeting. Please include your name and address with your question or comment.

Every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time via technological means. In the event that we are unable to do so despite our best efforts, we will post on the Town's website an audio or video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of the proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting.