



Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 27, 2021, 7:00 pm

Link: <https://andover.webex.com/andover/j.php?MTID=m6cb6bb2666de9eee6c45913b495a28f9>

Webex Meeting number: (access code): 179 797 1847

Meeting password: 7nFVETyVt42

Join by phone: 1-408-418-9388

Access code: 179 797 1847

In attendance:

- Amy Latva-Kokko*
- Joyce Losick-Yang
- Harry Voorhees*
- Jon Unger*
- Maria Bartlett*
- Anil Navkal*
- Beth Rasmussen*
- Melanie Cutler *
- Brad Weeden

* = AGAB member

1. Review meeting minutes from the **December 16** meeting. [link](#)

Voted unanimously to approve minutes: 7 YES, 0 NO, 0 ABSTAIN

2. Review meeting minutes from Special CIP meeting January 4: [link](#)

On hold until our next meeting for further review

3. Review schedule of meetings for year- proposed: 4th Wed of month except November and December : 11/17 and 12/15.

Voted unanimously to approve above dates for 2021 meetings:

7 YES, 0 NO, 0 ABSTAIN

4. CCA Design team meetings summary ([folder link](#)) - Anil | Joyce

- CCA Design Team has been meeting regularly over the past few months
- Has gathered community feedback about potential plans
- AHS ESIC interns research aggregation plans in other towns
- About 170 towns offer aggregation plans
- Of those, only 39 other communities are offering anything other than the state-mandated requirement for local renewable energy
- Of the 39 towns, only 11 communities are offering 15% or more Class I renewable energy
- Anyone using 3rd party electricity services (outside of National Grid) will not be eligible for this
- Town can educate people about CCA so that everyone would see it (not just National Grid customers)
- Lowell's default plan = 47% renewable, on top of the state's requirement (18%)
- Have decided on 3 potential products, in addition to the default
 - 1. Basic Service - no additional renewable energy product (beyond the 18% required by the state), very cost competitive or savings oriented product. We don't want people to opt out because then they receive no further communications from electric companies.
 - 2. Opt up product - 100% local renewable energy product
 - We may also be able to offer another plan with 50% local renewable in addition to the state's 18%
 - 3. Default = 15% additional Class I energy (beyond what is required by the state - currently 18% renewable. May be 20% renewable required by state by the time Andover's plan goes online).
- Next 6-8 months will involve educating town residents
- We don't know when DPU will finish with their review to approve our town
- We don't know when we'll go out to market, which determines what kind of deal the town will get
- Depends on wholesale electricity prices and Class I prices
- Good Energy (energy brokerage company) will advise the town on the best time to go out to bid
- Tell the public to wait for a letter with the official town seal
- Will be coming out for public comment in February

5. Playground surfacing and artificial turf-Maria

- Maria put information about playground surfacing in the AGAB meeting folder for 1-27-2021:

https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1Hvn18K4uK_BhbKBsTUD-46ozWG9vw2YY

- Biggest concern is accessibility for children with disabilities and fall safety
 - The only surfaces that meet that requirement are poured-in-place and engineered wood fiber in most states (except, not in MA, MD, and NY)
 - Engineered wood fiber is preferable, environmentally, but it requires maintenance
 - In Newton, 64 playgrounds/ playing fields.
 - Newton tested out rubber mesh mats with engineered wood fiber on top
 - State said that that would be acceptable to meet disability requirements
 - Poured-in-place material is usually poured on top of concrete, mixed with shredded material and rubber cement - concern about VOCs?
 - Within it year, pieces break off, can run off into environment
 - So, a solvent is poured on top to reduce break-down
 - Poured-in-place can get really hot and cause skin burns, also contributes to heat island effect
 - Materials cannot be recycled - so, what to do with them at the end of their life cycle?
 - Town is considering using artificial turf in some of the new playgrounds
 - This topic requires more consideration
 - Mari
6. ESIC Project Updates: (Melanie) CSO and wipes flyers, EV blog post, park tree map, dog waste reduction campaign, green infrastructure GIS maps, steel recycling and invasives removal, place-making art installation at Rogers Dell
- Student working on a flyer to encourage residents not to flush wipes down the pipes
 - EV blog post:
<https://andoverwecan.org/take-action/take-action-to-lower-your-carbon-footprint-t2pj4-2xpg5-pckw3>
 - CSO flyer:
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1vGnbhuZiu9mVQDOxvD85ZiKdlc3KaMH-/view?usp=sharing>
 - Illicit Hookups:
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1eXFUP3aQRY7vFBpQlt5S90NLHpqa13wp/view?usp=sharing>
 - Student working on an interactive map to give information about trees in the park (with QR codes)
 - Student working on ways to reduce dog waste on our trails
 - Student working using GIS program to map green infrastructure (settlement basins, porous pavement) in town

- Student working with Brad Weeden on removing invasive plant species (oriental bittersweet), removing old steel from town properties and recycling it. Removed a lot of ethernet cable from Lovely Field. Theme: reduce, reuse, recycle.
- Students working on native plants campaign
- Student working on plans to improve Rogers Dell Park
- Student researched sustainable furnishing and designing potential bathroom space for public buildings, will share with West EI Building public meeting

7. AHS Environmental Club Tree Plenish initiative (Melanie)

<https://www.tree-plenishevents.org/andover>

8. Flooring in schools-CIP-Maria

- Town is replacing some tiles in town buildings
- Linoleum might be the best alternative, in terms of environmental sustainability
- One issue is the adhesive that is used
- Will continue discussion at the next meeting, perhaps make a recommendation to the town

9. West Elementary School - Amy

- On Feb 10, meeting at 7 pm, Community Forum about West EI and Shawsheen School Replacement Project = project update to the town. Hosted by the West EI Building Committee.
- Plans to have low carbon footprint, be energy efficient, and be solar PV ready
- Plan to submit to MSBA by the end of February
- <https://www.smores.com/vcx0q-west-el-shawsheen-community-forum?ref=email>
- Did an economic analysis and solar feasibility study for Sanborn School (done by Cadmus group)
- Recommend a feasibility study for solar on the West EI project
- Amy will reach out to the Building Committee Chair

10. ICC process update - Amy

- ICC = International Code Council
- Thought to move the process to a standards process - very technical
- Concern - benefit of having municipal government voters is that they have the final say of code implementation
- Amy sent a letter to the ICC, which was taken into consideration

11. Items not foreseeable at time of agenda posting.

- Carbon Counter website from Harry: www.carboncounter.com

Public folder for this AGAB meeting: <http://bit.ly/GAB-20210127-Folder>

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitation on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Andover Green Advisory Board will be conducted via remote participation. For this meeting, the attendees will be able to access the video conference or join by phone, as well as ask questions by texting the moderator. Additionally, the meeting will be recorded, and the materials will be made publicly available at a later date.