



# Minutes

Wednesday, March 23, 2022, 7:00 pm

**WebEx URL:**

<https://andover.webex.com/andover/j.php?MTID=ma0c3180bba0dedeedf6cd92112e8a3e7>

**Meeting number:** 2340 504 8130

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

**Password:** 8pBMX7CgbJ5

**Phone access code:** 234 050 48130

**In Attendance:**

Amy Latva-Kokko \*  
Joyce Losick-Yang  
Jon Unger \*  
Harry Voorhees \*  
Maria Bartlett \*  
Brad Weeden  
Mike Linstrom, Deputy Town Manager  
Willow Cheeley \*  
Melanie Cutler \*  
Beth Rasmussen \*  
Amy Janovsky  
Jim Leahy  
Mary Pritchard  
Paul Materazzo, Director of Planning and Land Use

\* = AGAB

1. Approve Feb. 23 meeting minutes ([link](#))  
Minutes unanimously approved: 7 YES, 0 NO, 0 ABSTAIN
2. Town sustainability goals follow-up discussion - Michael Lindstrom (Deputy Town Manager)  
Following up on January workshop about sustainability goals  
Select Board / TM Goal - work with AGAB to come up with shared Sustainability Goals  
Joyce, Mike and Andrew discussed goals with different department heads

See document from January AGAB meeting. YES = Town Manager supports.

**1. Secure Select Board approval for C-PACE = YES**

- a. Would be good to have a partner. Who's going to participate?
- b. Can AGAB help to find a partner? Joyce and Paul Materazzo are reaching out to several property owners / property managers in town to see if we can find an advocate for the program. Have not yet found property owner who has expressed enthusiasm to do this.
- c. Greenfield, MA was the first to do this. 52 towns in MA have done this already.
- d. Mass Development manages the process. Process is easy. Towns need to do more PR to promote it. Maybe mention the C-PACE program at the Climate Summit?

**2. Apply for funding to mitigate climate risks = YES**

- a. Funding from Infrastructure Bill, FEMA, and/or BBB
- b. Address flooding, power security, emergency shelter, public health risks
- c. Identify more grant opportunities, continue work on MVP
- d. Eliminate all lead services in town pipes, especially in older homes. Will cost town \$2-3M to replace lead pipes in older buildings.
- e. Look at bigger FEMA preventative actions, bigger pot of money (up to \$50M) if you can decrease claims from damages. In order to qualify, need to update expired emergency preparedness plan.
- f. Town has increased funding for participatory funding program to \$300M.

**3. Figure out how to launch programs to help residents convert to heat pumps. = IN PROCESS**

- a. Ex. Cambridge uses Abode Energy advisory program, MetroWest Clean Energy Challenge, Heat Smart Alliance in Lexington
- b. Questions about liability after the fact. Should town be recommending preferred vendors?
- c. Can we partner with a nonprofit to run the advisory process, rather than the town taking responsibility?
- d. This year, MassSave is focusing on communities that have a history of working with EJ communities.
- e. Joyce is working with Groundwork Lawrence, potential partner for this
- f. Also working with Lawrence and North Andover on an MOU

**4. Support adoption of Net Zero Energy Stretch Code = IN PROGRESS**

- a. Need a bigger community discussion before town government dictates the new code
- b. Paul Materazzo worked with AGAB in the past to ask town to adopt stretch code. Talked with the development community. Offered public comment.
- c. Spring 2022 - state will take 5 public hearings, revise the codes, in fall 2022 the new opt-in stretch code should be ready.
- d. AGAB could host an informational session and then solicit comments.
- e. Look at spring 2023 for a Town Meeting vote.

- f. Mention this at the Climate Summit, talk with developers, etc. Be part of the conversation early.
- 5. **On a quarterly basis, have someone from the Planning Board, ZBA, etc. come to AGAB meetings to discuss sustainability bylaws, zoning, etc. = YES**
  - a. AGAB could help develop bylaws with input from town departments
  - b. Ex. workshop with Planning Board to identify themes. Talk at a high level in the spring so that we can plan in the summer.
  - c. Include input for the Master Plan, ask Lisa to attend AGAB meeting to present ideas.
- 6. **Adopt a Complete Streets Policy = YES**
  - a. A working group led by Planning has submitted a draft policy to DPW for review
  - b. Could a representative from AGAB help to create a prioritization plan, which projects to submit to DOT to fund. Create a working group to help put that together.
  - c. Willow Cheeley volunteered to help.
- 7. **Adopt a Comprehensive Tree Policy = YES**
  - a. Town secured a DCR urban forestry challenge grant.
  - b. Working on figuring out how to best use the money
  - c. Use tree inventory to inform decisions
  - d. Town is working on a draft tree policy that will be considered at the next Select Board working group meeting
  - e. Include tree planting into new sidewalk plan
  - f. Establish an annual planting goal and strategy about where to plant them, include a plan for stump removal, include public-private partnerships
  - g. Create a web page for trees, residents could request street trees.
  - h. Use Tree Keeper software
  - i. Create a sustainable funding source, figure out cost.
  - j. Could homeowners help to plant trees on their properties?
  - k. All information for the consultant is online now.
- 3. Chandler Road Park Family property planning ([link](#)) - Paul Materazzo (Director of Planning & Land Use)
  - a. Chandler Road Recreational Area
  - b. Town acquired 138 Chandler Road, about 44 acres
  - c. Want to start community conversation to understand what residents want to see at the site, ex. Recreational, sports, fields, splash pad, playground, picnic area, community garden, dog park, nature trail, restroom / concession building, renewable energy generation (solar canopy parking, wind turbines, solar panels), green infrastructure
  - d. Meeting, 6:30 pm at MHL 4/12 in person and 4/13 virtual
  - e. This year at town meeting, propose to purchase additional parcel to expand the property

- f. Landfill will be capped and become a passive park
  - g. In Fish Brook Overlay District. Would artificial turf affect water quality?
  - h. Zoning = single residential C district.
  - i. BSC Group, planning and engineering firm, is working with the Town
4. Climate emergency resolution ([link](#)) - Mary Pritchard (Andover WECAN)
- a. WECAN drafted proposal for Climate Emergency Declaration
  - b. 37 towns in MA have adopted Emergency Climate Declarations
  - c. Want to support town leaders in making decisions using a climate action forward thinking lens
  - d. Declaration would be non-binding, include many signatories to show deep support for making climate action at the government level a priority
  - e. Allows WECAN to spend time meeting with different groups in town, including education about why it's important to move forward with actions
  - f. Aligns with Governor Baker's roadmap for climate action
  - g. Would like to include more high level language about green infrastructure, site design, Willow will send comments
  - h. Also include language about importance of future operations
  - i. Timeframe? Draft Climate Action Plan = major deliverable by June 30, 2023, based on lots of public input, starting at Climate Summit, so timing is perfect to pass Climate Emergency Declaration at Town Meeting. Climate Action Plan will include financial ramifications, department responsibilities, accountability measures, resources, etc.
  - j. Motion: AGAB supports the draft Emergency Climate Declaration, understanding that the document will continue to be edited and returned for final review:  
YES = 7, NO = 0, ABSTAIN = 0
5. Sustainability director's report - Joyce Losick-Yang
- a. Climate summit preparations
  - b. Planning is going well, draft program brochure is available on town website, panelists and moderators have been settled, logistics are secured, exhibitors will be there on Friday and Saturday morning (youth - 10 am - 12 pm)
  - c. Entries for art contest are coming in
6. Other business and discussion
- a. Next AGAB meeting will be in person, Wed, 4/27 at 7:00 pm in the Town Offices building, room TBD
  - b. Ask potential new members to attend the next AGAB meeting?
  - c. Maria will talk with Mindy Chave about possibly including Andover in the Pollinator Pathways group

Pasted from the Chat:

from Amy Latva-Kokko to everyone: 7:13 PM

<https://www.northandoverma.gov/community-economic-development/pages/property-assessed-clean-energy-pace-program>

from Melanie Cutler she/her to everyone: 7:22 PM

Participatory funding increase - can we include \$ for school composting?

from Amy Latva-Kokko to everyone: 7:30 PM

<https://www.abode.energy/participating-contractor-list/>

from Brad Weeden to everyone: 7:32 PM

We would have benefited from this kind of guidance when we installed our heat pump. Absolutely.

from Amy Latva-Kokko to everyone: 7:32 PM

<https://www.masssave.com/saving/residential-rebates/heat-pump>

from Amy Latva-Kokko to everyone: 7:34 PM

<https://www.masssave.com/en/learn/find-a-heat-pump-installer?hasPosted=true&zipCode=01810>

from Brad Weeden to everyone: 7:34 PM

We used a contractor on Mass CEC's list, but the list included a clear disclaimer that the CEC does not endorse any particular contractor.

from Amy Janovsky to everyone: 8:28 PM

I think we need to involve our legislators in pressing for more funding for DOER to move energy initiatives forward. And there's a Governor's race underway...

from Mary Pritchard to everyone: 8:58 PM

Tom Childs is interested in this conversation with builders/architects.

from Willow Cheeley to everyone: 9:03 PM

Where is in-person meeting?

from Willow Cheeley to everyone: 9:05 PM

I just got a site into Pollinator Pathway. :)