



Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, July 29, 2020, 7:00 pm

Webex Meeting number: 129 113 9087 | Password: CBmypUxf374

<https://andover.webex.com/andover/j.php?MTID=m485db04c07573752b23ee5ab6d64da39>

Join by phone: Dial 1-408-418-9388 (US Toll) Access code: 129 113 9087

In attendance: Amy Latva-Kokko, Jon Unger, Anil Navkal, Melanie Cutler, Beth Rasmussen, Harry Voorhees, Maria Bartlett, Joyce Losick-Yang, Zona Sharfman

1. Board members unanimously supported the idea of Amy writing a letter stating the mission of AGAB and will recognize the town's discussion of equity, diversity and inclusion and discuss the synergies with environmental health and justice issues.
2. Review meeting minutes from
 - a. May 28th meeting
 - i. Unanimously approved by AGAB
 - b. June 24th meeting
 - i. Unanimously approved by AGAB
3. BU-Andover Air Quality study: Joyce/Anil with guests Catherine Connolly (BU - PhD candidate) and Jade Nair (AHS)

Goal: improve environment at AHS while students learn hands-on skills. Kate will be working on an assignment and will make a presentation to Joyce Losick-Yang and Andrea Schreck about how air spreads at AHS and what remedial steps can be taken. Jade and Kate are working together, using data from AHS. Findings will be presented to the School Committee. Kate presented to Anil, Joyce, and Andrea about airborne transmission of COVID-19. Suggested some solutions to consider for the reopening strategy. Kate worked with Jade (coding skills) to produce weekly reports to identify rooms that need help to improve indoor air quality. Jade has been building a weekly report using AHS data, including using historical data. They added visualizations and graphs to make the data easier to process. Focused on CO2 values as an indicator of indoor air quality. Andrea Schreck from Town Facilities Dept. is in attendance. She and Joyce have talked with Tom Carbone about air circulation in school buildings. They will advocate for Kate to interface with the School Committee and School Reopening Task Force and to come up with an action plan.

Andrea, Mechanical Engineer (has designed isolation rooms), is feeding lots of information to the task force. She uses AutoCAD and has been making plans of student capacities in classrooms. There will be an internal meeting tomorrow to discuss ventilation and isolation rooms. It's good that we have a working Building Management System to monitor indoor air quality in buildings.

4. Metropolitan Area Planning Council - North Shore Green Municipal Aggregation (GMA) Working Group - Joyce ([Slides](#))

Group working together on CCA. This is different from most CCA models because they're trying to pursue a regional model. There are 2 other regional models that have worked, ex. Cape Light (aggregates electricity services for different municipalities, do energy efficiency work, manage both the supply and demand sides). Another model: work with an energy broker to identify a competitive supplier, enter into a multi-year agreement, and the same energy broker can broker individualized contracts with a community, but they all go out to bid all at once so that purchases are pooled to secure better deals. So, different communities can ask for different things in their contracts. North Shore is exploring this, thinking about offshore wind potential. Could be used to supply a significant portion of a CCA contract. We could be purchasing power from our own county, keeping jobs here. In the early exploratory stages.

5. MassCEC - New and improved Solarize Mass + Smart Heat program - Joyce / Anil

MassCEC is rethinking their Solarize Mass program. Anil and Joyce talked with Lisa Dobs from MassCEC. Solarize Mass program is no longer active. Also, there is money from the Columbia Gas settlement, somewhere around \$10 M to spend on green energy projects for Andover, North Andover, and Lawrence. Thinking about ideas on how to use that money. The MassCEC presentation is in the AGAB Google Drive folder for tonight's meeting. The MassCEC meetings are public.

6. AHS ESIC (Environmental Sustainability Internship Course) internship / mentor project ideas for next school year - Melanie

West Elementary School intern / AGAB liaison?

7. Update on Health Department Pesticide Reduction Task Force - Maria and Joyce

Joyce talked to Tom Carbone about the pesticide reduction policy task force. It does not meet on a regular basis. Paul Sanborn, Superintendent of Parks and Grounds and Tree Warden. He abides by the Task Force recommendations. Maria is concerned about the mosquito spraying.

8. MassDevelopment Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) - Joyce

Secretary of Energy in Massachusetts came to the MV Chamber of Commerce meeting to talk about energy programs in Mass. MassDevelopment is the program manager for C-PACE = a financing program. Commercial properties apply for clean energy project loans through C-PACE. It is structured over 16-20 years, so there's a longer payback

period for green energy projects. Energy savings from the project are used to pay off the loan, making it attractive to commercial property owners. Uses a “betterment assessment” on your quarterly tax bill, goes through the municipality’s assessor’s office, forwards the information to a collections office working with MassDevelopment. DOER is involved in the technical review of projects, guaranteeing that, if installed properly, the property will gain energy savings, making it a low- or no-risk loan. Over 22 communities have already opted in to this project. For Andover to opt in, we have to get the Select Board to approve it. Works for existing properties. Great for new local job opportunities. In Andover, our commercial properties are driving energy consumption in town, so this would be a great opportunity. Loan amount has to exceed \$250k. For more information, visit: <https://www.massdevelopment.com/pace> . AGAB voted unanimously to support the initiative in Andover.

9. New business

From Andrea: Could the new West Elementary School be NetZero? Could the town use Columbia Gas funds for that project? Environmental Sustainability Internship Course (ESIC) liaison to AGAB?

Form Harry: The Merrimack Valley Planning Commission is putting together an active transportation plan and is looking for inputs, especially on bicycle and pedestrian traffic. <https://mvpc.org/multi-modal-transportation/> and <https://wikimapping.com/Merrimack.html>

Joyce has been working on developing safer routes to schools, ex. a “share road” lane to encourage more biking. Also, add more bike racks around town. Used previous work from 2013. AGAB members are invited to submit their input.

From Maria: Massachusetts Healthy Soil Action Plan information: <https://www.mass.gov/doc/healthy-soils-action-plan-public-meetings/download> and <https://www.regenerativedesigngroup.com/massachusetts-healthy-soils-action-plan/>

Warrant information for Town Meeting 2020: https://andoverma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/8053/2020-ATM-Warrant_FINAL?bidId=

Public folder for this AGAB meeting: <https://bit.ly/GAB-20200729>

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.