



**Sustainable Arlington  
an Envision Arlington environment committee**

**Meeting Agenda**

Date: Wednesday, January 22nd, 2020

Time: 7:30 – 9:00 pm

Location: Town Hall Annex, 1st Floor Conference Room

In attendance: Amos Meeks, Brucie Moulton, Louisa Pepper, Sarah Hill, Keith Schnebly, Ann Boland, Steve Revilak, Jen Strassfeld, Laura Harding, Tom Ehbrecht, Gail McCormick, Roger Rosen, Barabara Thornton, Scott Samenfeld, Emily Sullivan

1. Introductions
2. Approve minutes
  - a. Approved
3. Update from Planning Dept.
  - a. Transportation plan has selected the consultant and met a few times. Process will take about a year.
  - b. Town is in the process of collecting data for GHG inventory. Big public meeting in May, with draft published before then.
  - c. We are partnering with Melrose and Natick on a grant to develop Net Zero plans. Trying to keep methodologies consistent across communities.
  - d. Part of this process will also include focus groups.
4. Arlington Fossil Fuel Ban
  - a. Updates
    - i. CEFC will file the warrant article, we need to focus on organizing for outreach and talking to town meeting members, select board, and other stakeholders.
  - b. Ways to get involved
    - i. Email Amos: [am0053@gmail.com](mailto:am0053@gmail.com) if you want to volunteer!
5. Emily Sullivan, the Town's Environmental planner, to talk about Town Resilience
  - a. Town Hazard Mitigation plan needs to be approved by FEMA and MEMA, very prescriptive, they tell us what to look at. We adopted a plan in 2012, currently undergoing a plan update. Presenting the draft to select board on Monday the 27<sup>th</sup>, public comments through Feb 10<sup>th</sup>. There will be a public notice sent out tomorrow. Also posted on the planning website (Climate and resiliency planning).
  - b. Also the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness program (MVP), had a workshop. Identified specific areas that we thought could be improved (e.g. flooding along mill brook, heat island across mass ave.) This makes us eligible for action funding.

- c. Permitted projects by the conservation commission need to take climate change into account. Anyone who lives within 100 ft buffer zone of a wetland, or anyone within 200 ft from river, or anyone in a floodplain. Town has an interactive map if you want to look for yourself.
  - d. Open space committee is going to start it's open space plan update, with consideration for climate change.
- 6. Town Survey resilience questions and preliminary data
- 7. EcoFest Update
- 8. Envision Arlington Standing Committee leadership vacancy
- 9. Local Environmental Action Conference sponsorship
  - a. \$70 for two tickets and \$35 tickets for group members
    - i. Unanimously approved
    - ii. Two tickets available, let us know next meeting if you would like one!
- 10. Sustainable Arlington partnership with Arts Arlington: Learn to make Plarn!
  - a. Next Plarn Workshop: Jan. 25, 2-4:30 pm, Fox Library
  - b. Workshop schedule: <http://artsarlington.org/artist-in-residence/workshops-and-meet-ups/>
- 11. New business
  - a. Gail has made a new climate change blog, [climatecrisisblog.com](http://climatecrisisblog.com), which she would like to link to the SA website.
  - b. Barbara Thornton brought a slew of citizen's warrant articles that need signatures. All related to housing in Arlington, which relates to sustainability and affordability. They need signatures by anyone who is interested. She works with a housing group and suggests that perhaps there is an event that could be done in collaboration to talk about the intersection of housing and sustainability.
- 12. Announcements
  - a. January 28<sup>th</sup> MCAN webinar: Affordable Housing as a Climate Solution [https://www.massclimateaction.org/1\\_28\\_affordable\\_housing\\_as\\_a\\_climate\\_solution\\_3](https://www.massclimateaction.org/1_28_affordable_housing_as_a_climate_solution_3)
  - b. HeatSmart Arlington/Winchester ends January 31st.
  - c. Envision Arlington Standing Committee meeting open to the public: Wed., Feb 12, 7pm Town Hall Annex, 1st floor conference room.
  - d. Take the Envision Arlington Town Survey by Feb 29<sup>th</sup> <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/W3T28CW>
  - e. Sustainable Middlesex public meeting: Feb. 29, 9:30 am – 12 noon, Climate Legislation/Carbon Countdown, Jenks Center, Winchester
  - f. Local Environmental Action Conference: Saturday March 7<sup>th</sup>, Northeastern University
  - g. EcoFest 2020 Sat. March 21<sup>st</sup>. Theme: Community & Climate Resiliency
  - h. Fixit Clinic and Clothing Swap: Sunday May 3<sup>rd</sup>, Thompson Elementary School. Find Fixit clinic in other communities: <http://www.boltonlocal.org/initiatives/repair-cafe>
- 13. Adjourn