



Sustainable Arlington

An Environment Committee of Envision Arlington

Agenda

Date: Wednesday December 15, 2021

Time: 7:30 – 9:00 pm

Location: Virtual Meeting by Zoom

Register in advance at: <https://town-arlington-ma-us.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMlcu6trj4iHNKuShw3ZeYR8NAyO6dVjG9C>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Notice to the Public on meeting privacy In the interests of preventing abuse of videoconferencing technology (i.e. Zoom Bombing) all participants, including members of the public, wishing to engage via the Zoom App must register for each meeting and will notice multi-step authentication protocols. Please allow additional time to join the meeting.

At the start of the meeting, we will:

1. Confirm first and last name of everyone on the call for the minutes and make sure that everyone can hear each other
2. Read Preamble to Remote Meetings
3. Introduce all members, staff, and persons on the agenda
4. Review “ground rules” for online meetings
5. Meeting materials will be available online through Novus or Town website for the public.

Agenda for Wednesday, December 15, 2021

1. Introductions
2. Native American Land acknowledgement: <https://native-land.ca/>
3. Vote on supporting a draft Warrant Article for the 2022 Town Meeting, submitted by Save the Alewife Brook, <https://savethealewifebrook.org/>, to Town Counsel Doug Heim for review. (Kristen Anderson, David White)
 - a. Whereas Alewife Brook in East Arlington is a valuable natural resource area for Arlington residents but degraded by sewage contaminated discharges from the Combined Sewer Outfalls (CSO) from Cambridge, MWRA and Somerville and that those contaminated waters can flood onto Arlington lands and houses, we

direct the Town officials to engage with this problem and the regulatory process and to take actions to eliminate the CSO discharges into the Alewife Brook.

4. Wrap up: 2021 AHS student intern public art project, [Remembrance of Climate Futures](#), the latest in a multi-year series around New England designed by [Northeastern University Professor Tom Starr](#) (Cecily Miller, arts consultant)
Arlington Community Education proposals for Spring catalog: deadline January 31
 - a. Please review for discussion www.climatefuturesarlington.org
5. The Future of Heat bill, S.2148/H.3298 *An Act Relative to the Future of Heat in the Commonwealth* (Anne Wright, Mothers Out Front; Multi-Town Gas Leaks Initiative)
 - a. Future of Heat bill fact sheet:
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/194HB9UroJG94NPBeDr2XpzxX6CxNURtr/edit?usp=sharing&oid=110442179466765451315&rtpof=true&sd=true>
6. Open Mic: Share your ideas and concerns
7. Planning Department Updates
 - a. Arlington has a new Environmental Planner/Conservation Agent, David Morgan, and is interviewing for a new Sustainability Director
 - b. Arlington Electric School buses - See arlingtonma.gov/planning
8. Supporting a strong opt-in, municipal Net Zero Stretch Energy Code for Massachusetts
 - a. The State will release a draft, followed by public hearings and comment period.
 - i. ["What is a Building Code?"](#) Excellent overview from Mothers Out Front, including how buildings can fight climate change
 - ii. MCAN, https://www.massclimateaction.org/net_zero_building_codes
 - iii. [Area Munis Signal Support of Net Zero Stretch Code](#). Thirty MA communities signed on.
9. Approved minutes for [August](#) and [October](#)
10. Arlington Community Education proposals for Spring catalog: deadline January 31
11. Announcements/Take Action
 - a. [Petition to close the Save the Alewife Brook CSOs](#) and [December 13 meeting](#)
 - b. [Clean Heat for Massachusetts petition](#) asking our gas utility (National Grid) to align their plan for reducing their greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050 with the [Mothers Out Front Future of Clean Heat Platform](#). Petition closes December 31.

- c. Pending MA legislation (H.3333/S.2197) would stop subsidies for polluting biomass plants and heating systems. Ask MA Legislators: protect communities and stop dirty biomass subsidies. <https://actionnetwork.org/letters/tell-ma-legislators-dont-prop-up-dirty-biomass>
- d. [Arts Arlington Call for Entries: Nature in the Balance](#), submission deadline Jan. 15, 2022

12. Adjourn

Next meeting: Wed., January 19, 2021, 7:30-9 pm [Register here](#)

Resources:

13. [Recording link for 11/17/21 Save the Alewife Brook CSOs discussion with Sustainable Arlington](#) (temporary)
 - 100% Clean energy bill: An Act transitioning Massachusetts to clean electricity, heating and transportation. Rep. Sean Garballey and Rep. Marjorie C. Decker <https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H3288>.
 - EEA: Massachusetts Clean Energy and Climate Plan for 2025 and 2030. <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/massachusetts-clean-energy-and-climate-plan-for-2025-and-2030> Public feedback is accepted at gwsa@mass.gov.
 - Boston ordinance on zero emissions, <https://www.boston.gov/news/ordinance-requiring-zero-emissions-large-buildings-2050-signed>
 - Hydrogen - dirty, dangerous and unhealthy for heating, and nearly all is made from fossil fuels. <https://www.gasleaksallies.org/hydrogen-rng>

Sustainable Arlington:

<http://www.sustainablearlington.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=sustainable%20arlington%20group>