

Energy Legislation

Summarized from the American Clean Energy & Security Act of 2009. Discussion Draft posted in many places, including Markey's website

On Earth Day, April 21, Chairman Henry A. Waxman of the Energy and Commerce Committee and Chairman Edward J. Markey of the Energy and Environment Subcommittee released draft legislation entitled, "The American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009" (ACES). As reported in a memorandum by the Energy and Commerce Committee, its intent is to take a comprehensive approach to America's energy policy and move the US toward a clean energy economy. "This legislation will create millions of clean energy jobs, put America on the path to energy independence, and cut global warming pollution," said Chairman Waxman. "We will create jobs by the millions, save money by the billions, and unleash energy investment by the trillions," said Chairman Markey.

To meet these goals, the legislation has four titles:

- A clean energy title that promotes renewable sources of energy, carbon capture and sequestration technologies, low-carbon fuels, clean electric vehicles, and the smart grid and electricity transmission;
- An energy efficiency title that increases energy efficiency across all sectors of the economy, including buildings, appliances, transportation, and industry;
- A global warming title that places limits on emissions of heat-trapping pollutants; and
- A transitioning title that protects U.S. consumers and industry and promotes green jobs during the transition to a clean energy economy.

According to Markey's discussion draft, one key issue that is still under discussion by Committee members is how to allocate the tradable emission allowances that restrict the amount of global warming pollution emitted by electric utilities, oil companies, and other sources. The subcommittee is set to complete consideration of the legislation by Memorial Day.

For a more in depth summary of the key titles, go to http://energycommerce.house.gov/Press_111/20090331/acesa_discussiondraft.pdf

Summary of titles.

TITLE I – CLEAN ENERGY

Renewable Energy. The draft promotes renewable energy by requiring retail electricity suppliers to meet a certain percentage of their load with electricity generated from renewable resources, like wind, biomass, solar, and geothermal. The renewable electricity requirement begins at 6% in 2012 and gradually rises to 25% in 2025. The governor of any state may choose to meet one fifth of this requirement with energy efficiency measures.

Carbon Capture and Sequestration. The draft promotes devel-

opment of carbon capture and

sequestration (CCS) technologies to ensure a continuing place for coal in our nation's energy future. CCS is a method of reducing global warming pollution by capturing and injecting underground the carbon dioxide emitted from electricity generation plants that use fossil fuels. The draft includes a CCS early demonstration program, incentives for the wide-scale commercial deployment of CCS, and performance standards for new coal-fired power plants.

Clean Fuels and Vehicles. The draft establishes a new low-carbon transportation fuel standard to promote advanced biofuels and other clean transportation fuels. It authorizes financial support in the form of grants or loan guarantees to cities, states, or private companies for large-scale demonstrations of electric vehicles. A related provision authorizes financial support to car companies to retool their plants to build electric vehicles.

Smart Grid and Electricity Transmission. The draft contains provisions to facilitate the deployment of a smart grid, including measures to reduce utility peak loads through smart grid and demand response 2 applications and to help promote smart grid capabilities in new home appliances. It also directs the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to reform the regional planning process to modernize the electric grid and provide for new transmission lines to carry electricity generated from renewable sources.

Partnering with the States. The draft creates a program to allow each state energy office to establish a State Energy and Environment Development (SEED) Fund, which will serve as a common repository for federal financial assistance for clean energy and energy efficiency projects.

Federal Purchases of Renewable Electricity. The draft authorizes federal agencies to enter into long-term contracts to purchase renewable electricity.

TITLE II – ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Building Energy Efficiency. The draft promotes energy efficiency in new buildings by providing federal training and funding assistance to states that adopt advanced building efficiency codes. It authorizes funding for retrofitting existing commercial and residential buildings to improve their energy efficiency. And it directs the Environmental Protection Agency to develop procedures for rating building energy efficiency.

Manufactured Homes. The draft provides rebates to low-income families residing in pre-1976 manufactured homes that can be applied toward purchases of new Energy Star-rated manufactured homes.

Appliance Energy Efficiency. The draft codifies four negotiated agreements on efficiency standards for lighting and four additional agreements for other appliances.

Transportation Efficiency. The draft directs the President to work with the relevant agencies and California to harmonize, to the maximum extent possible, the federal fuel economy standards, any

emission standards promulgated by EPA, and the California standards for light-duty vehicles. The goal of this provision is to preserve the environmental benefits that could be achieved by the three standards, but do so in a way that simplifies compliance by the auto companies. The draft also directs EPA to set emissions standards for other mobile sources of pollution such as locomotives, marine vessels, and non-road sources. The draft requires states to establish goals for reducing global warming pollution from the transportation sector and requires large metropolitan planning organizations to submit transportation plans to meet those goals. The draft authorizes EPA to carry out the Smart Way Transportation Efficiency Program to increase the efficiency of highway trucking.

Utilities Energy Efficiency. The draft establishes a new energy efficiency resource standard to enlist electricity and natural gas distribution companies in the effort to make the nation more energy efficient. Under this program, each distribution company must demonstrate that its customers have achieved a required level of cumulative electricity or natural gas savings relative to business-as-usual projections. The efficiency standard starts with a 1% electricity savings and 0.75% natural gas savings in 2012 and gradually increases to a 15% cumulative electricity savings and a 10% cumulative natural gas savings by 2020.

Industrial Energy Efficiency. The draft requires the Secretary of Energy to establish standards for industrial energy efficiency and to seek recognition of the result by the American National Standards Institute. The draft also creates an award program for innovation in increasing efficiency of thermal electric generation process.

Public and Federal Energy Efficiency. The draft amends the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 to include non-profit hospitals and public health facilities among public institutions eligible for grants and loans for energy efficiency. It also requires competition before task orders are awarded by federal agencies under energy savings performance contracts.

TITLE III – REDUCING GLOBAL WARMING POLLUTION

The global warming provisions in the discussion draft are modeled closely on the recommendations of the U.S. Climate Action Partnership (USCAP), a coalition of electric utilities, oil companies, chemical companies, automobile manufacturers, other manufacturers and energy companies, and environmental organizations.

Global Warming Pollution Reduction Program. The draft establishes a market-based program for reducing global warming pollution from electric utilities, oil companies, large industrial sources, and other covered entities that collectively are responsible for 85% of U.S. global warming emissions. Under this program, covered entities must have tradable federal permits, called “allowances,” for each ton of pollution emitted into the atmosphere. Entities that emit less than 25,000 tons per year of CO₂ equivalent are not covered by this program. The program re-

duces the number of available allowances issued each year to ensure that aggregate emissions from the covered entities are reduced by 3% below 2005 levels in 2012, 20% below 2005 levels in 2020, 42% below 2005 levels in 2030, and 83% below 2005 levels in 2050.

Supplemental Pollution Reductions. The draft directs EPA to achieve additional reductions in global warming pollution by entering into agreements to prevent international deforestation. By 2020, these supplemental reductions will achieve reductions equivalent to 10% of U.S. emissions in 2005. These are low-cost reductions in global warming pollution that can be secured by devoting approximately 5% of the allowance value to the program.

Offsets. The draft allows covered entities to increase their emissions above their allowances if they can obtain “offsetting” reductions at lower cost from other sources. The total quantity of offsets allowed in any year cannot exceed 2 billion tons, split evenly between domestic and international offsets. Covered entities using offsets must submit five tons of offset credits for every four tons of emissions being offset.

Banking and Borrowing. To provide additional flexibility without compromising environmental goals, the draft permits unlimited banking of allowances for use during future compliance years. The draft also establishes a rolling two-year compliance period, effectively allowing covered entities to borrow from one year ahead without penalty. Allowances from two to five years in the future can be borrowed under limited circumstances.

Strategic Reserve. The draft directs EPA to create a “strategic reserve” of about 2.5 billion allowances by setting aside a small number of allowances authorized to be issued each year thereby creating a cushion in case prices rise faster than expected. The draft directs EPA to make allowances from the reserve available through an auction when allowance prices rise to unexpectedly high levels. The proceeds of the auction will be used to purchase additional offsets that will replenish the strategic reserve.

Carbon Market Assurance and Oversight. The draft provides for strict oversight and regulation of the new markets for carbon allowances and offsets. It ensures market transparency and liquidity and establishes strict penalties for fraud and manipulation. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission is charged with regulating the cash market in emission allowances and offsets. The President is directed to delegate regulatory responsibility for the derivatives market to an appropriate agency (or agencies), based on the advice of an inter-agency working group.

Additional Greenhouse Gas Standards. The draft directs EPA to set emission standards on sources that are not covered by the allowance system. In addition, it creates special programs to reduce emissions of two pollutants that contribute to global warming: hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) and black carbon. HFCs are chemical products that are used in refrigeration, air conditioning, and insulation, among other currently regulates because they deplete the ozone layer. Under this regulatory program, EPA will be directed to phase down the production of HFCs. Black carbon, or soot, is the product of incomplete

Continued on page 4

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combustion of fossil fuels or biomass. It is a major contributor to warming in the Arctic. EPA is directed in the draft to use its existing authority under the Clean Air Act to reduce emissions of black carbon domestically and study opportunities for reductions internationally.

Clean Air Act Exemptions. The draft provides that CO₂ and other greenhouse gases may not be regulated as criteria pollutants or hazardous air pollutants on the basis of their effect on global warming. The draft also provides that new source review does not apply to these global warming pollutants.

TITLE IV – TRANSITIONING TO A CLEAN ENERGY ECONOMY

Ensuring Domestic Competitiveness. To ensure that U.S. manufacturers are not put at a disadvantage relative to overseas competitors, the draft authorizes companies in certain industrial sectors to receive “rebates” to compensate for additional costs incurred under the program. Sectors that use large amounts of energy, and produce commodities that are traded globally, would be eligible for the rebates. If the President finds that the rebate provisions do not sufficiently correct competitive imbalances, the President is directed to establish a “border adjustment” program. Under that program, foreign manufacturers and importers would be required to pay for and hold special allowances to “cover” the carbon contained in U.S.-bound products.

Green Jobs and Worker Transition. The draft includes several provisions to promote green jobs. One section authorizes the Secretary of Education to award grants to universities and colleges to develop curriculum and training programs that prepare students for careers in renewable energy, energy efficiency, and other forms of climate change mitigation. Under another section, the Secretary of Labor is authorized to carry out such training programs. The discussion draft also notes that a worker transition section remains to be provided.

Consumer Assistance. The discussion draft notes that a consumer assistance section remains to be provided.

Exporting Clean Technology. The discussion draft includes provisions to provide U.S. assistance to encourage widespread deployment of clean technologies to developing countries. The draft specifies that only developing countries that have ratified an international treaty and undertaken nationally appropriate mitigation activities that achieve substantial greenhouse gas reductions are eligible for funding.

Adapting to Global Warming. The draft establishes an interagency council to ensure an integrated federal response to the effects of global warming. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is directed to conduct vulnerability assessments and establish a National Climate Service. Each federal agency is directed to prepare an adaptation plan, review climate impacts on matters within its jurisdiction, and develop plans for addressing those impacts. The draft establishes a climate change adaptation fund to provide federal support for state, local, and tribal adaptation projects and a natural resources climate change adaptation panel to coordinate interagency actions on natural resources adaptation. The draft also

requires the Secretary of Health and Human Services to promulgate a national strategy for adapting to the public health effects of climate change. To address international adaptation issues, the draft creates an International Climate Change Adaptation Program within USAID to provide U.S. assistance to the most vulnerable developing countries for adaptation to climate change.

President’s Letter *continued from page 1*

League to partner with the Andover Conservation Commission on the open space forum. Many thanks to the Environmental Action Committee and the Tree Subcommittee for devoting their time and effort to organizing a wonderful set of ways to connect with the earth through trees. Lynn Eikenberry, Antoinette Hauck, Amy Janovsky, Chris Young, Denise Boucher, Becci Backman and many others worked very hard on these endeavors. A special thanks goes to Emily Classon of Memorial Hall Library for all of her help. The tree raffle and grass seed fundraiser netted nearly \$1,000 to benefit League activities. We hope celebrating Arbor Day will become a revitalized tradition in Andover. To everyone who participated, thank you for supporting the League.

Finally, the LWMA Convention is May 29 and 30 at the Newton Marriott. It’s a great opportunity to network with League members from around the state and to have input into the state League’s agenda for the next two years. The theme is health care and there will be speakers and workshops about many interesting and timely topics. Plan to attend one or both days. I’ll be carpooling from Andover, so please let me know if you are interested.

Open Space Meeting

By Alix Driscoll

The League and Andover Conservation Commission partnered on a forum on April 23 to give townspeople an opportunity to contribute ideas and goals for an updated Open Space and Recreation Plan, which would allow the Town to seek grant funds for the purchase of open space and recreation sites. Don Cooper, chair of the Conservation Commission, gave an overview of why open space is desirable and how the amount of open space per person has declined rapidly in the last three decades. With an eye to Town Meeting on May 26, he spoke about the \$800,000 bonding article that will be before citizens for several specific parcels. Challenging economic times are often the best times to purchase open space at reduced prices. Participants broke into small groups to discuss what they liked about the open spaces and recreational opportunities now in Andover and what goals should be for the future. Among the many and varied suggestions rising out of the groups were: community gardens, access to and protection of the rivers, multi-use parcels, publicity about town-owned parcels, signage for paths, more green space downtown, more playing fields, partnering with Housing Authority and many town groups, and stronger management of town-owned parcels.



Convention 2009 Schedule

Early Registration deadline: 5/11/09

Late Registration deadline: 5/27/09

Visit www.lwvma.org or call 617-523-2999 for fee information and to register.

Friday, May 29:

11:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. Registration

Noon – 1:45 p.m. Lunch

Featured Speaker: Patricia Walrath,
Former State Representative

2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Workshops

3:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Convention Protocol

4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. First Plenary Session

6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Reception

7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Dinner

Featured Speaker: Elaine Ullian
President & CEO Boston Medical Center

8:30 p.m. – 10:30 p.m. Caucuses

Q&A on Budget

Q&A on Program

Convention/Parliamentary Questions

Saturday, May 30:

8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Registration and Notes from First Plenary

8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Budget Q&A, Input from Members

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Second Plenary Session

12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. Awards Luncheon

Featured Speaker: Nancy Turnbull
Harvard School of Public Health

2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Workshops

3:30 p.m. Adjournment

Workshops

Friday May 29, 2009

1. Membership Successes: Reaching out to the community to attract new members is important League work. This workshop will discuss the ways some local Leagues have increased membership and participation in their local chapters. This workshop is for any League member who wants to help their local League increase membership.

2. Election Day Registration: An opportunity to discuss concerns about Election Day Registration, how it has worked in other states, and how it would be implemented in Massachusetts.

Led by Pam Wilmot, Executive Director of Common Cause Massachusetts

3. “Why Massachusetts Health Care Reform Is Failing and What to Put In Its Place”: This workshop will include a look at what services are actually provided and to whom; what the costs are to individuals, family doctors, small hospitals, and the Commonwealth; and what better plan could replace it.

Speaker: Dr. Pat Berger Downs, Co-chair of Mass-Care and Member; House of Delegates, Massachusetts Medical Society and Member of Massachusetts Medical Society's Task Force on Health Reform; Moderator: Judy Deutsch, LWVMA Healthcare Specialist and Chair, Mass-Care's Legislative Committee

4. Budget Information and Member Input on the Future of LWVMA:

The current economic situation has not spared the League of Women Voters. Come learn more about our current fiscal situation and help answer the questions: (1) Is the League of Women Voters a relevant organization among civic organizations in today's non-profit world? (2) Is it relevant on Beacon Hill and in your community? Meet incoming LWVMA Board members and let them know what you think the LWV of Massachusetts should be doing to support local Leagues and to be relevant throughout the Commonwealth. Ask questions, think out loud, all ideas welcome.

Saturday May 30, 2009

1. League Tech: A roundtable discussion of various technical aspects of the League. Join us to learn about the LWVUS Membership Database, setting up a League website, using MKTix to accept online payments, electronic Bulletins and even Treasurer duties.

2. How to Run a “How to Run for Office” Training: Massachusetts had fewer contested races statewide than any other in the country in the 2008 election. A strong democracy depends on having choices on the ballot. This is a “train the trainer” workshop for local Leagues to encourage and train those who are thinking about running for office or those who may work in a candidate's campaign, and an opportunity to gather ideas on how to encourage more people to run for office at all levels.

3. Leadership: Presented by Carol Reimers, LWVUS Board of Directors and former LWVMA Board of Directors

4. Budget Information and Member Input on the Future of LWVMA

Agenda

- 6:00 - 7:00 Social
 7:00 – 8:00 Dinner
 7:45 Welcome
 Announcement of Cole Scholarship winner
 Guest Speaker – Bob Givens
 8:30 – 9:00 Business Meeting

Appointment of Reading Committee
 Secretary
 Parliamentarian

President's Report
 Treasurer's Report, Budget for 2009-2010
 Membership Report

Reports:
 Environmental Action Committee
 Voter Service

Adoption of proposed Local Program for 2009-2010

Re-adopt Local Positions

- Town Meeting (Monitor)
- Community Paths (Monitor)
- Reproductive Choice (Monitor)
- Planning (Monitor)
- Energy Policy (Monitor)

Report of the Nominating Committee

Other Business
 Recognition of those stepping down from the board

Directions to the Board

LOCAL PROGRAM PLANNING

The following ideas were generated for study, education or action by the League next year. We hope some or all of them will inspire volunteers and interest. There will be an opportunity to sign up at Annual Meeting. Email stefraina@verizon.net if you are interested.

1. Growth; projections for Andover and growth impact on schools and town services.
2. Town Meeting issues, in particular, town survey results about Town Meeting.
3. Review Cell tower regulations and conduct an informational forum.
4. Investigate town rules and regulations for alternative energy sources, such as windmills, solar panels.
5. Educate members and the public about end of life issues through a series of speakers and forums.
6. Educate about and advocate against casino gambling in Massachusetts.
7. Recruit Observer corps members; note that many meetings are broadcast live and/or posted online for viewing.
8. Continue to encourage waste reduction.
9. 2010 Census outreach project.

Proposed Slate of Officers 2009-2010

By: Amy Janovsky, Nominating Chair

The membership will vote to approve the Nominating Slate at Annual Meeting. If you see a position that interests you, please let Amy Janovsky know.

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS	
President	Stefani Traina Goldshein
VP North Andover	Sandy Gleed
VP Andover	Open
Treasurer	Gail Mann
Secretary	Open
DIRECTORS	
Environmental Action	Denise Boucher, Lynn Eikenberry
Tree Committee	Antoinette Hauck
Bulletin Editor	Cynde Egan
Membership	Paulette Zuena
Handbook Editor	Ann Cobleigh
Publicity	Maureen Sundberg
Meetings Coordinator	Joan Duff
Voter Service/Andover	Becci Backman
Voter Service/North Andover	Kathy Stevens
Legislative Action	Diana Walsh
Nominating Committee	Open
Website Administration	Open
Finance/Fundraising	Amy Janovsky
EVENTS Coordinators	
Chocolate Event	Heather Belson
Community Read-Along	Sondra Finegold, Denise Boucher
Know Your Town Fair	Heather Moody Holman
Election Day Precincting Coordinator	Molly Bicking
Town Meeting Preview Coordinator	Open
Running for Office Workshop	Open
Day on the Hill Coordinator	Open
MONITORS	
Energy Policy	Norm Viehmann
Community Paths	Michael Frishman
Reproductive Choice	Faith Johnson
OBSERVER CORPS	
North Andover Issues	Sandy Gleed, Heather McNeil
School Committee	Open
Route 93 Interchange	Alix Driscoll
Select Board	Open
Planning Committee	Open
Finance Committee	Open
Conservation Commission	Open

Annual Meeting

Proposed FY2010 Budget

	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	FY09	FY09	FY10
INCOME	Actual	Actual	Actual	Plan	YTD	Plan
prepaid for next FY	2,935	3,630	2,550		110	
paid in current FY	5,230	3,970	3,460		2,595	
prepaid in previous FY	1,205	2,935	3,665		2,550	
Dues collected for FY	8,165	6,905	7,125	7,100	5,145	6,400
Member Contributions	105	740	340	350	130	350
Non-member Contributions	-	-	75	50		
Ed Fund Contributions	265	50	50	50	70	
General Fundraising	-	-	-	-	2,559	
Sponsorships	1,515	1,400	1,400	1,500	1,425	350
Phonathon	532	450	359	350	359	
Interest	218	295	298	300	120	100
Nat'l Ed Fund	-	-	-	-		
KYTF	715	200	1,012	200		
Other	270	874	688	600	182	650
FY09 Earned Income	11,784	11,609	10,182	10,500	7,298	
Council/Convention Savings	-	-	550			
Retained Earnings	-	-	1,000	1,556	3,450	1,000
TOTAL INCOME	11,784	11,609	11,731	12,056	10,748	8,850
EXPENSES	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	FY09	FY09	FY10
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Plan	YTD	Plan
Operating Expenses						
General Supplies	51	42	126	100		100
PO Box, Permit	568	522	745	750	372	100
Postage						150
Bulletin Printing	1,710	1,893	1,763	1,800	792	325
Website	160	260	160	160	160	160
Fundraising	-	-	-	-	1,540	
LWV Publications	-	-	26	25		
Membership	19	273	368	100	85	100
Hospitality/Meetings	512	243	485	500	213	500
Convention/Council	1,038	285		500	500	500
Workshops	-	-				
Member Scholarships	55	-		100		100
Member Handbook	387	422	425	350	519	175
Other	157	187	383	100	30	
Subtotal	4,656	4,127	4,480	4,485	4,211	2,060
Fixed Expenses						
Annual Filing Fee	15	15	15	15		15
State PMP	2,691	2,612	2,818	2,760	2,772	2,880
US PMP	2,910	3,024	3,233	3,396	3,360	3,725
Subtotal	5,616	5,651	6,066	6,171	6,132	6,620
Program Expenses						
Read-Along	-	-	75	100	68	20
Environmental Action	271	360	128	200		100
Voter Services				50		50
KYTF		10	790	50		
Special Forum	1,128	300	796	1,000		
Subtotal	1,399	670	1,849	1,400	68	170
TOTAL EXPENSES	11,671	10,449	12,395	12,056	10,411	8,850
NET INCOME	113	1,160	(664)		337	-

Invasion of the Longhorned Beetles

By Amy Janovsky

Science writer and Phillips Academy Alumnus Peter Alsop spoke to a packed auditorium on April 15th. His talk was riveting, as he described the factors leading up to the international invasion of the Asian Longhorned Beetle, an insect capable of decimating the New England forest, if not successfully contained. The Worcester, Massachusetts infestation is believed to have started ten years ago, so forest scientists are almost certain that some infected wood left the area before the outbreak was recognized. This means that public vigilance is essential, since ordinary folk (not scientists) have recognized each outbreak in the US so far. The beetle has distinctive black and white spots across its back and blue legs; its photo is easily available via an online search. Maples are a preferred species, and unfortunately account for most of the street trees in Worcester, so that areas cleared to contain the beetle look like clear-cuts. Most worryingly, however, is the beetle's appetite for almost all of the tree species of the modern New England forest. So far, only conifers and oaks seem to be overlooked. As Alsop explained, species diversity helps limit infestations of this sort. The widespread planting of poplars as single-species windbreaks in China seems to have caused the original population explosion of the beetle there; when the dead trees were thriftily cut and used for shipping pallets, the beetle hitched a ride to Europe and North America. If you see holes "bored" into a tree that a pencil would fit in well, be suspicious. If the holes are in tidy rows, they're most likely made by a sapsucker (a bird), and not a problem. If they're scattered randomly, seek advice from an arborist! You may be the one to spot the next invasion.

LWV Andover/N. Andover Honored

By Lynn Eikenberry

The Andover/ North Andover League of Women' Voters was honored last week at the annual meeting of Massachusetts Interfaith Power and Light (MIP&L) for their efforts in raising over \$45,000.00 for the Town of Andover through the Clean Energy Choice Program of the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative. The MTC, through matching grants, provides up to one dollar in funding for each dollar residents spend on clean energy. Towns and cities can use this money to fund clean energy projects in their communities. A portion of Andover's money has gone to the Big Belly Solar powered trash compactors in town and plans are currently underway to place a solar voltaic system on a public building in town. The Environmental Action Committee had made promoting the Clean Energy Choice program to Andover residents a centerpiece of their 2007-2008 efforts. MIP & L is a nonprofit initiative offering all congregations a comprehensive means of reducing energy consumption, lowering operating costs and promoting clean renewable energy in houses of worship.



LWV Andover/North Andover Membership Renewal

_____ \$55 Basic Member _____ \$60 Contributing Member _____ \$75 Sustaining _____ \$75 Household Dues
(2+ persons in same household)

_____ \$100+ Patron _____ \$35 Senior Citizen (65 and over) _____ \$35 Student (under 24 yrs. old)

_____ In addition to my membership, I'd like to make a contribution of \$_____.

_____ Enclosed is a separate check containing my tax-deductible contribution of \$_____ payable to the Education Fund

Send checks payable to: **LWV OF ANDOVER/NORTH ANDOVER**, Membership, P.O. Box 514, Andover MA 01810

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ email _____

Thank You!

Your LWV renewal membership will run from July 1, 2009- June 30, 2010

N. Andover Prepares for Town Meeting May 12, 2009

By Sandy Gleed

Town Moderator Charles Salisbury held a pre-Town Meeting forum event April 29th, to provide clarification for voters on some of the more interesting warrant articles to be debated on the floor of Town Meeting. Mr. Salisbury was joined at the dais by Board of Selectmen Chair Rosemary Smedile, Town Manager Mark Rees, and Town Charter Committee Co-Chairs Robert Ercolini and Susan Haltmaier.

Budget questions are always a hot topic for Town Meeting, but the discussion this year is distinctly different because of the uncertain impact of Federal stimulus funding on both the local and State budgets. Town voters will be asked to appropriate FY10 funding without knowing a significant portion of the revenue numbers. Whether voters will need to come back in the fall for a special Town Meeting to re-appropriate funding is under discussion and negotiation right now between our Board of Selectmen, School Committee and Finance Committee members.

North Andover will be offered a one-time opportunity to purchase approximately 188 acres of pristine woodland property under the Windrush Farm Community Preservation Committee articles. A significant portion of our Community Preservation funds, totally separate from operating budget funds, are dedicated to preserving and supporting open space and recreation opportunities. The purchase of Windrush Farm would preserve the land in its natural state and preserve the continued existence of the hiking trails that traverse the property. It would also open up opportunities for public educational programs.

The Wireless articles take two different approaches to defining pre-existing structures under our current wireless bylaw. Expect to see the Planning Board article and the article(s) sponsored by citizen petition discussed by our Town Planner and Town Counsel at Town Meeting.

The article proposing extension of the sewer line into encapsulated residential neighborhoods is already stimulating debate amongst sewer rate payers and at Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee meetings. Unlike the recently completed sewer extension around Lake Cochichewick which benefits the entire town because it protects our drinking water reservoir, this article benefits the affected homeowners. As of this writing, the Board of Selectmen, charged with setting the betterment rate which apportions the construction costs between the affected homeowners and all sewer rate payers, has not voted the betterment fee. At the Board of Selectmen meeting April 27th, Selectmen discussed assessing betterment fees of 80 to 100% to the affected homeowners. One Board of Selectmen member raised the point that under such a scenario, some affected homeowners might pay more to hook into a new sewer pipeline than if they installed a brand new septic system.

The Town Charter Committee was formed in response to a non-binding ballot question put forth by citizen petitioner George Vozeolas. Two years ago, ballot question results said that North Andover's vot-

ers wanted our town to look at alternative types of local government [Town Meeting is just one of several options]. The Committee has been looking at our current town charter and has sponsored several warrant articles to do some "housecleaning" to clean up some of our existing general government bylaws. Petitioner George Vozeolas, now a member of the Charter Committee, has also independently sponsored articles on this year's Town Meeting warrant, to focus attention on the ballot question's voters' request to look at alternative forms of local government.

North Andover's Annual Town Meeting is an exceptional opportunity each year for voters to shape the cultural and financial future of our town. We, the attending voters of Town Meeting, are the legal legislative body – WE make the binding decisions that determine the quality of life and the availability of municipal and school services we enjoy.



As Andover residents, Suzanne & Leland DiMeco are committed to providing their North Shore Community with a real estate office that can make available green resources to any real estate transaction. As Certified EcoBrokers they can help you find homes that are healthy, comfortable, and cost-effective. They provide benefits to Buyers, Sellers and Investors by offering the highest level of green real estate knowledge available. Learn more by visiting www.bostongreenrealty.com or calling 617-262-3075.

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Schedule of Events

May	Wednesday, May 6	8:30am-8pm	Town Clerk's Office	Last day to register Andover's Town Meeting.
	Wednesday, May 6	9:15 am	23 Oak St, Andover	Board Meeting. All members welcome.
	Tues-Wed, May 12-13	7 pm	N. Andover High School	Town Meeting - North Andover.
	Thursday, May 14	11:30am-1pm	Panera Bread, Rt. 133 & Rt 114, N. Andover	Lunch & Conversation.
	Thursday, May 14	7 pm	Andover School Committee Room, Whittier Court, Andover	Town Meeting Preview - Andover. Free and open to the public.
	Friday, May 15	10 am—noon	6 Roulston Circle, Andover	Andover Town Meeting Member Warrant Unit.
	Wednesday, May 20	6—9 pm	Atria Marland Place, 15 Stevens St, Andover	Annual Meeting. All members welcome .
	Tues-Wed, May 26-27	7 pm	Field House, Andover High School	Town Meeting - Andover
	Thu, May 28	7 pm	Collins Center	Town Meeting - Andover—if needed
	Fri, May 29, -Sat, May 30		Newton Marriott	LWW of MA Convention: Health Care Theme
Jun/Jul/Aug	Wednesday, June 3	7:15 pm	197 Shawsheen Rd., Andover	Board Meeting. All members welcome.
	Friday, June 12	11:30am-1pm	Panera Bread, Rt. 133 & Rt 114, N. Andover	Lunch & Conversation.
	Saturday, June 13 - Monday, June 15		On-line	LWW US Council.
	Tuesday, July 14	11:30am-1pm	Panera Bread, Rt. 133 & Rt 114, N. Andover	Lunch & Conversation
	Friday, August 14	11:30am-1pm	Panera Bread, Rt. 133 & Rt 114, N. Andover	Lunch & Conversation

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