

Minutes

Clean Energy Task Force

Regular Meeting, Wednesday, May 18, 2016

Town Hall Conference Room A, 7:30 p.m.

Present: Cathy Alfandre, Heidi Armster, Carroll Brooke, Katie Callahan, Regina McNamara

Cathy convened the meeting at 7:42.

Minutes briefly discussed. Carroll motioned to pass; Regina seconded. Passed unanimously.

Solar Updates - SSES phase 2; JBHS:

Carroll updated the group on the financial status of the SSES solar lease, including a chart showing amount billed and kWh generated for the first 5 months. System is running as expected and is likely to improve over time with more than expected output.

Barlow: Carroll spoke with Vance Hancock, Chair of the Region 9 Board of Education. Hancock stressed that the TF will still need to go through the Facilities and Building Committee to move forward with any kind of solar proposal.

Carroll suggested the TF speak with Redding's First Selectwoman Julie Pemberton to find out if Redding would have interest in a solar option for the school so the towns can pool support.

Will re-visit as more information becomes available.

Briefly discussed the signage necessary to provide information about the solar array at SSES. The farm tour in Easton will take place August 20. Will have to re-visit the possibility of hosting something next month; not clear if we can get the solar farm on the tour for this year.

Green Spotlight updates:

Regina drafted an article on the Home Energy Solutions; it will appear in The Courier in the coming week or so. Hold-up is waiting on UI for an

official statement on the program. Might just need to move ahead without that.

Next up: Summer Energy Savings and Aquarion wish list.

Task Force name change:

Cathy has requested Adam for permission to change our official TF name; he said he needs to bring the issue to the Board of Selectmen. First choice would be: Easton Energy Task Force (EETF)

Regina motioned we propose a name change to the First Selectman; Carroll seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion: future energy audit work:

Cathy suggested we proposed an energy audit of another building to the Selectmen. Obvious candidate is 660 Morehouse but there may not be enough support/interest on the part of the tenants to be able to get that idea past a discussion.

The TF may request money to conduct an audit, especially if we are close to earning another UI grant. Grant money offsetting the cost of an energy audit would be a further incentive.

Cathy will circle back to Jeff Parker about moving ahead with audit-suggested ideas for Keller.

Carroll motioned we add regular energy reporting to the agenda. Heidi seconded. Item added.

Energy reporting:

Carroll suggested that the TF could present quarterly reports to the town on energy usage, fuel amounts, comparable data to prior year, etc. With only 5 municipal buildings this should be relatively easy. Will look into the viability of this.

Discussion for our June meeting: the TF will work on data report work.

Katie motioned we adjourn. Second: Carroll.

Cathy adjourned the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Heidi Armster, Secretary
CETF, June 13, 2016