

## Minutes

### Clean Energy Task Force

Special Meeting, Wednesday May 27, 2015

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

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

Cathy convened the meeting at 7:35.

#### **Minutes**

Minutes discussed briefly; motion to approve, Carol/Heidi; approved unanimously by the Task Force.

#### **Solar project update (Carroll)**

- New map drawings are being made by Ochman; they were recently checking dimensions in order to modify the originals for potential size increase
- Need to get approval in June for project start date of sometime in July
- With the new map there may be a widening of the rows but someone from Bella will have to come out and take a look at the light potential to see if the arrays being spread out further affect the solar potential

Cathy added that we might want to apply for a grant with ELF to pay for a sign that would provide educational information to the public and residents (open air museum style)

Carroll said he has reached out to set up a meeting with SSES administration within the next 2 weeks or so to update them on the timeline of the project.

#### **School projects updates**

*HKMS audit:* Cathy and Carroll met with Peggy Sullivan to follow up on the audit process; assuming we have \$10,000 of a \$15,000 audit paid for, the BoE would need to budget in only \$5000. Cathy has

reached out to Peggy and will continue that conversation. No clear answers whether they will approve moving ahead on this yet.

*Lighting:* Carol Labore attended the last meeting and reported to the group that she had helped to clarify some of the details of the proposal; Peggy Sullivan had reported to Cathy that she was waiting for final word but anticipated the project will move forward. Payback was roughly 36 to 48 months.

*SSES demand management:* Carroll reported that the Honeywell rep had been looking for answers to the high peak periods that data on SSES had shown. They were looking for the reasons that equipment was going on with these sudden high peaks that translate into higher costs. Hopefully the school system can regulate the energy demand in such a way that will save money.

#### **EV Station/grants update**

Katie reported the grant for \$10,000 was approved; need to attend the next BoF meeting to present how the first 3 years will be paid (part of the requirement is that the town has to pay the cost for this initial period).

Range of cost is from \$250 to \$1200 annually (based on usage from 5 cars per week)

One suggestion was to look for an "Angel Donor" as a source of funding if the BoF does not approve the cost for the initial 3 years, which is a requirement of the program and grant.

Katie reported hearing about a grant (after the deadline had passed) that would help defray the cost of *municipal* purchases of electrical vehicles by *funding the difference between the cost of a hybrid/plug-in model and a gas model*; the time period on this grant had expired but she was told it will likely be offered again next year. Something to keep in mind.

Katie had discussed details with Dan Shanahan from Control Module, the company that installs the EV pedestal.

Tuesday is the Board of Finance meeting – Clean Energy is on the agenda to provide information on the EV project. Several task members are expected to attend.

### **"Green Spotlight" for Courier**

- Many ideas for submissions; the group discussed how to proceed, when and who would do what topics (once monthly, middle of the month, etc.)
- Schedule needs to be set up for who would research/prepare stories for which subjects and submit to the paper: solar experience, electric car experience, Barlow "green" education, feedback from town recycler, Aquarion's goals that are green friendly, national ban the bottle trends, what goes into town recycling bins, cost benefit of LED bulbs, where our garbage goes, dishwasher vs. hand washing, composting (some of the most liked ideas)
- Carroll will do LEDs and solar panel experience; Katie will do ban the bottle and Aquarion; Cathy will do where our garbage goes and electric car owner experience; Heidi will do Barlow and what goes into our recycling bins.
- Suggested that we submit ideas that are locally appropriate and useful to town residents for energy efficiency and savings, including national trends however.

### **Summer Schedule**

Discussed the summer dates of June 17<sup>th</sup>, July 15<sup>th</sup> and August 19<sup>th</sup> to see if there will be any scheduling conflicts.

Will need to move July's meeting to the 8<sup>th</sup> to accommodate the schedule.

Katie motioned to adjourn the meeting; Carroll seconded.

Cathy adjourned the meeting at 9:15.

Respectfully submitted,  
Heidi Armster, Secretary  
CETF, June 11, 2015