

Minutes

Easton Energy & Environment Task Force

Regular meeting, Wednesday, November 17, 2021

Town Hall conference room A, 7:30 p.m.

Present: Cathy Alfandre, Heidi Armster, Jeff Borofsky, Katie Callahan, Lise Fleurette, Bobby Morganti  
Also present: Emily Marshall

Cathy convened the meeting at 7:34

**Discussion on energy storage, with Micah Brill from Skyview:**

- Micah gave a brief overview of Skyview, founded 2009
- Explained the issue with our current solar array, which has to do with a short in one wire, due to water in the system; expected to be fixed by/around December 12th; Skyview and Green Bank split the cost of the repair; explained that it's not uncommon to have some sort of issue roughly every 5 years, often with the electrical system, inverters, etc.
- Question from Bobby: Is there a clause in our contract to guarantee the town does not incur high costs due to loss of service? Micah said he would review the contract and get back to us
- Energy storage: CT is finalizing program details around energy storage; Micah explained back of the meter and front of the meter systems:
  - 'back of the meter' – energy that is produced by the solar array and stored; able to provide energy when grid power is down
  - 'front of the meter' – energy that can be drawn from storage on site during high cost periods, thus shaving off the high cost of peak demand
- Cathy asked if CT is early to adopt this type of program; CA and HI are already growing programs, and CT is earlier than most
- Katie asked about relative costs of back-end vs. front-end for our town; Micah said the system costs would not fall to the town at all; there would be an addendum to the PPA
- behind the meter is more complicated, much smaller; front of the meter is simpler and the town would lease the land to Skyview for a storage unit (this would require a large area of up to 10,000 sf, and would need to be near a substation)
- Skyview will follow up with a proposal when program details are more fleshed out

**October minutes:**

Briefly discussed; Bobby motioned to approve the minutes; Heidi seconded; approved unanimously

**Solar data: October**

- Phase I: 104% of expected; Phase II: 84% of expectation
- Cathy reported that data had recently begun to flow again from Central Office
- Briefly discussed the difference in performance data for last month

**3-in-1 recycling event debrief:**

- Katie reported thank you cards from seniors who had items picked up

-The number of cars that passed through was close to 200; all flyers were passed out; the truck was full to capacity; overall, a very successful event

**EV readiness:**

1. Next steps: EV readiness team will meet sometime after Thanksgiving to go over next steps
2. Charging station has been repaired
3. Grant application for mower: Katie has reached out to P&R, which is open to the idea of an electric mower purchase

**Recycling grant timeline/next steps:**

Recycling team will begin planning in January by setting an overall timeline for the grant recently earned; tasks will be discussed and set at that time

**Other:**

- Meeting dates for 2022: Heidi will send the dates around before December meeting
- Cathy will send out the Annual Report for the TF to all before the December meeting

Lise motioned to adjourn; Bobby seconded.

Cathy adjourned the meeting at 8:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Heidi Armster, Secretary  
Monday, December 13, 2021