

Minutes

Easton Energy & Environment Task Force

Regular meeting, Wednesday April 15, 2020

Meeting via Zoom

Present: Cathy Alfandre, Heidi Armster, Katie Callahan, Bobby Morganti, Deidre Williams

Absent: Lise Fleurette

Also attending: Dana Ceva, Abbie Winter, Emily Winter, Joan Winter

March meeting minutes:

Motion to approve: Katie; second: Heidi. All approved.

Updates:

1. **Solar performance:**
 - a. Phase I update: March was 103% of expected; April tracking so far has been 80% due to unusually bad weather;
 - b. Need to get similar report on Phase II;
 - c. Inverters repair: UI is requiring some paperwork from the Green Bank before it can approve the repair; waiting on this
2. **Events:**
 - a. Cathy reported that we have postponed the solar event at SSES, the electronics recycling event, and guest speakers, who were to be invited to meetings (Joe Sardone) and also for a possible speaker series
 - b. Deidre put together a short list of revised questions for Joe; she will circulate to the group
3. **HKMS:** building management system upgrade project has been approved by the BoE; a vendor walk-through scheduled for April 16th; bids will be due April 29; after that they will assess before moving ahead
4. **Survey:** On hold until things begin to normalize for residents

Discussion continued about some of the repercussions of COVID19: on recycling; increased use of plastic; suggested asking Joe if he has noticed any uptick or other changes in the recycling since the pandemic arrived

Article ideas for Easton Courier:

Cathy will draft an article with a list of things residents can do to celebrate Earth Day during a pandemic, including clean-up while walking separate from others

Dana will work on an article about the Buy Nothing Project. Possible future articles on spring cleaning (reducing chemicals; where things can be disposed responsibly); reducing electricity and water usage while everyone is home.

Aquarion award:

Cathy reported that she and Heidi are working to revise last year's write-up; will distribute to all once that is done. Deadline for application is June 1.

Heidi motioned to add an item to the agenda to discuss the Electric School Bus Toolkit series of workshops. second: Katie.

Electric School Bus Toolkit workshop series:

Abbie: Webinar workshop meetings are weekly for 6 weeks, starting tomorrow, April 16th. Abbie has signed up for the meetings; Katie and Heidi indicated an interest and may sign up as well.

Discussion returned to recycling again, with additional ideas for questions for Joe Sardone.

Katie reported having sent follow-up questions to Kristin Brown for the Simple Recycling program, mostly about small changes to the contract, etc. Has not heard back yet.

Motion to adjourn: Bobby; Second: Deidre. All approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:17.