

Minutes

Clean Energy Task Force

Regular Meeting, Wednesday, June 15, 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 7:32

Minutes briefly discussed; motion to approve: Carroll; second: Regina.
Motion passed unanimously.

Solar Update/REC

Carroll reported that the deadline for submitting an application is tomorrow (June 16).

Cathy asked what Carroll thought of the future of the auctions if we still want to participate for solar projects.

Discussed possible options going forward, but whether there will be auctions or some other way to finance is not certain now. Will have to re-visit in coming months.

TF went over the information and data on solar output, YTD totals, monthly breakdown and cost savings. Carroll explained details of usage, billing and savings.

To a question posed by Cathy: Carroll said these details some from Carol Labore. His inquiry into the details need to be asked to help guide the planning process for solar management going forward.

Discussed Carroll's expertise and rapid learning on solar, and advising for energy management for the town; he has spent many hours in this role.

Green Spotlight update:

There has been a delay with the Home Energy Solutions piece because of the appearance of such an article being too much like an advertisement for UI. Discussed possible solutions for this.

The other Spotlight on the list of energy savings for summertime is next to go out; might need to be edited somewhat so that the advice is more oriented towards town residents.

For September Cathy suggested we do a Green Spotlight on the Energy Star Certification recently awarded to SSES.

Portfolio Manager update:

UI is trying to figure out how to manage the data automatically so that we don't have to rely on town personnel to do the work. Janet Haller is currently doing all data input for town buildings, but because it is time consuming she is not able to keep up with Portfolio Manager alongside regular town hall duties. For the schools, Carolyn Reed is doing the data entry work.

Cathy shared with the group an example of a standard report generated from all the energy data input into Portfolio Manager. Discussed benefits to the town if all data were in the system; however generating a report is a complicated series of steps. Need to address this at some point.

Task Force name change:

Cathy reported she will need to go to the Board of Selectmen sometime this next month to officially request the TF name change.

Other next steps:

Carroll mentioned a "Commissioning Law" whereby a project engineer is commissioned for any state funded building upgrade and/or new building project. Discussed how this could be very useful going forward with all the projects that could save energy and money for the town.

Regina motioned to adjourn; Katie seconded.

Cathy adjourned the meeting at 8:55.

Respectfully submitted,
Heidi Armster, Secretary
07/19/2016