

Minutes

Easton Energy & Environment Task Force

Regular Meeting, December 18, 2019

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

Present: Cathy Alfandre, Katie Callahan, Zac Shortt (JBHS Liaison)

Also attending: Abbie Winter, Joan Winter

Absent: Deidre Williams, Heidi Armster, Lise Fleurette, Bobby Morganti

Cathy convened the meeting at 7:30

We did not have a quorum so no votes were taken.

Discussion

1. SimpleRecycling rep Kristen Brown could not make the meeting. Katie presented overview of the "soft goods" recycling program. Simple Recycling is a for-profit company rolling out this program in many CT towns. Soft goods (clothes, shoes, etc) are picked up curbside on same day as Single Stream. Town of Easton would receive funds based on total weight received (annual estimate \$1500). Joan discussed second soft goods recycling option--Bay State Textiles. This company would place collection bins in Easton and town would receive \$100/ton, paid 1/month. Program would require active marketing campaign. Other options are Big Brothers/Big Sisters program or AmVets program. Team discussed briefly; further discussion tabled till next meeting.
2. Glass recycling: Jennifer from HRRRA (Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority) will be attending January meeting to discuss glass recycling options in CT. She was instrumental in starting curbside glass pick-up pilot. She mentioned Urban Mining will be building major glass recycling plant in SW CT in 2020. Katie will try to gather more info on plant plans (location, timing). In addition to environmental benefits, eliminating glass from Single Stream collection could be a significant cost savings to Easton.
3. Solar Update: Effective 11/27/19 Phase 2 of SSES solar farm is operational. Cathy checking to see if phase 2 is integrated in the in-school monitoring system. Cathy mentioned inverter upgrade or replacement is scheduled for Jan 2020.
4. HKMS energy efficiency opportunity – Cathy met with Scott Reiss, ER9 Finance. Scott is very interested in pursuing 2015 audit recommendation on improvements to the HKMS building mgmt. system (projected \$18K+ annual savings and 56K+ kwh savings). UI incentive would offset 25% of project costs. Meeting with key stakeholders will be held in January to discuss next steps.
5. SW CT Clean Cities Coalition (Daphne Dixon) has offered free "NO IDLING" sign. There was discussion on possible locations. Team agreed that education location would have

greatest impact. Will continue discussion to next meeting. Zac will check on JBHS location/options.

6. Ideas for 2020: Cathy organized feedback from team. There is agreement on need to narrow scope and focus on key projects for 2020. Team will review for further discussion. Abbie is drafting questionnaire for next discussion and future survey.
7. Easton Courier Contributions: Easton Courier is coming back (digital only) and EEETF has committed to contributing monthly. Q1-Q2 2020 launch. Team to discuss content calendar. Discussion tabled to next mtg.
8. Team received calendar of 2020 meeting dates (3rd Wednesday of each month).
9. E-Recycling Event: scheduled for 4/25/20 (school recess 4/13-4/17). Val Buckley requests announcement for Feb edition of Senior Newsletter. Plan is to work with seniors to coordinate pickups for convenience.
10. SSES Solar Farm panel signage: Will have sample graphic for next meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



Chair, Easton Energy & Environment Task Force