

Swampscott Renewable Energy Committee

Meeting

Tuesday, September 18th, 2018 at 7:00 PM

Swampscott Town Hall, 2nd Floor Meeting Room

Attendees: Samantha McCafferty, Thomas Dreeben, Wayne Spritz, John Graff, Ryan Hale, Tara Gallagher,

Guests: Sean Fitzgerald, Dana Anderson

Agenda & Minutes

1. Approve minutes from previous meeting
 - a. Motion to approve, second, passed by vote
2. Introduce guests - potential new committee members
 - a. No Town residents able to attend as interested volunteers today.
 - b. Dana Anderson
 - c. Sean Fitzgerald: Town Administrator
3. Review status of open action items
 - a. This committee will develop a prioritized list of investment opportunities, e.g., EV charging, Middle School roof PV expansion, new school, vehicle fleet, etc.
 - b. Tara will follow up with Sean & Gino about the expiration of PPA contract with Peregrine.
 - c. ACTION: Tara will contact Tom Prentiss about Town's utility demand response (hold until summer .
4. Discussion with Sean Fitzgerald, Town Administrator
 - a. School Planning Committee: Sean will connect us with the Committee to attend meetings. Great opportunity for the REC to influence the planning and design process to achieve sustainable and efficient operating outcomes. Sean advised REC members to visit buildings that have been designed to a green standard and understand the cost/benefit trade-offs. List of facilities available from MSBA.
 - b. REC to invite Max Casper (Building Inspector) and the Facilities Team (Jim Samms, Pete McCarriston) to future meetings to discuss Green Communities grant implementation and other topics. Building back more staffing support in the Administrative office to track consumption data to drive analysis and action.
 - c. Important to establish some financial goals around energy efficiency for the Town and be more mindful of the consumption and impact. We should plan a quarterly review of financial and operational data - assess together and discuss opportunities.
 - d. Sean spoke earlier about this with Schools Superintendent, evaluating options to replace Facilities Management function to advance the performance, for example bringing in technical expertise on a consulting basis to augment other Town capabilities.
 - e. Energy Revolving Fund concept: raise funds through usage fees and deposit a portion of grant receipts to seed a Revolving Fund. Will need to work with Selectmen to garner support for the concept. Ryan to work with Sean to prepare Town Meeting presentation including best practices / references from MA and example projects with positive financial and energy impacts.

- f. Sean can provide reconciled overall Fleet operating costs to update the estimates of savings from Fleet efficiency projects. Get the list of insured vehicles from the Town and analyze holistically: snowplows, backhoes, lawnmowers, etc. Sean would like to see the Town to have a couple EV, to install EV charging stations either as capital or operating expense projects.
 - g. Before we submit another Green Communities grant application, work with Sean to develop a comprehensive list of options that preserve our Town's historic character while pursuing energy performance.
 - h. Meet with Sean before year end to review the Facilities budget and discuss cost priorities and how to achieve some energy objectives, e.g., centralize preventative maintenance. Sean is open to REC suggestions about how to spend existing budget funds on consulting services for current conditions analysis and other projects to take a long term stewardship approach to the Town facilities.
- 5. Green Communities Grant Award - transition to project kickoff
 - a. We have been notified of the award since the July meeting. Sean provided an update that the implementation in accordance with projects defined by B2Q (consulting engineers) is a priority and is being managed by Max Casper and the other inspectors.
- 6. Police Department Fuel Reduction: Finalize Memo, funding options
 - a. Committee approves content of the the memo, Ryan will make final grammatical edits send to Chief Madigan cc REC members on the letterhead provided by Wayne.
- 7. Net Zero: definitions and applicability to Swampscott initiatives
- 8. Revise messaging for Board of Selectmen presentation
- 9. Other Business
 - a. Ryan: Call notes from Susan McFee, Independent Energy Consultant. REC will pursue Heat Smart Mass application in early 2019.
 - b. Tara: Dana Anderson (guest). Current cost and energy consumption (overall and per sqft). MSBA can provide guidelines on square footage based on student capacity and design options, e.g., auditorium. Engineers can estimate energy load based on current code. Understand how to reduce load through design, then offset through renewable production. Determine whether the cost of getting to net zero (over 30 years) is worthwhile. Important to engage the School Committee about the benefits of net zero design beyond energy impact, e.g., health benefits, learning opportunities. King School in Cambridge is an opportunity for a joint field trip with School committee members. Dana to confirm local sites that could be available for visits. We will find an appropriate contact at MSBA through Swampscott School Planning Committee. Tara to contact Neal Duffy for advice or contacts on the subject.
 - c. Tara: Mentoring opportunity for Swampscott High School STEM program
 - i. Committee agrees that having the participation from students is great, would direct them towards projects that align with REC priority list (e.g., school energy, EV charging study, Mass Save audits, etc.)
 - d. Board of Selectmen presentation: scheduled for 3 October.
 - i. Reinforce to the BOS that we want the Town to "go bold" with the School project and will be working closely with other Committee members to achieve that.
 - ii. Revise to presentation points about Facilities Manager - Sean has committed not to zero out the budget, aligned with the mission, etc.