

Swampscott Energy Committee

Minutes

Tuesday September 15, 2020 at 6:30 PM

Attendees: Max Kasper, John Graff, David Zalanowski, Tara Gallagher, Ryan Hale, Diana Eddowes, Marzie Galazka, Nick Scibelli

Agenda

1. Approve minutes from previous REC meeting
2. Align on REC priorities for next 6 months, such as
 - a. Electrification and related building code & zoning regulations - REC concludes that a municipal level policy is not the right means to achieve the objective of reduced fossil fuel use / GHG intensity in Swampscott.
 - b. Community Solar - after doing some additional research, the first hurdle is to have a viable site, which we don't have available in Swampscott (<http://www.harvardsolar.org/>). Tax rate drops in 2021. Other than promoting 3rd party PV projects (through developers like NexAmp, etc.), and raising the topic in our next coincidental discussion with SERC (Salem), no further action on this topic for REC.
 - c. EV adoption and charging station access (no discussion)
 - d. Resiliency initiatives (no discussion)
3. Coordination with other Town Committees
 - a. School Building Committee - Sustainability Subcommittee voted to pursue LEED over CHPS. Design principles around Passive House, maximizing the efficiency of the structure "solar ready" for future addition of generation and storage, ground source heat pumps. Ryan will ask the SBC about tying the bike path to the site and continue forwarding meeting invites to the REC members, joint meetings to support critical decisions. Ryan to reach out to SBC members for details about energy implications of site selection so that we can develop a recommendation on behalf of REC.
 - b. Town Meeting, Capital Planning, Finance, etc. No candidates for Warrant items at this point - each attendee to consider ideas to discuss at the next meeting.
 - c. Affordable Housing (e.g., LIHEAP, local developments)
4. META Grant Status (application date 20 August 2020) - was submitted by Max Kasper. Ryan to follow up about award status.
5. Green Communities milestones - not discussed
 - a. Actions to complete previous grant cycle
 - b. Reporting milestones
 - c. Tara notified Ron & Max with Town Administration of the updated Energy Efficient Vehicle Purchasing Policy that we must comply with as a Green Community.
6. Recruiting REC members
7. Other business
 - a. Solarize wrap up. Stipend for Solar Coach (\$1k) will be allocated to Ryan (approved by voice vote) - plan to donate the funds to support REC objectives. Total drawdown available ~\$2,500.
 - b. GHG Baseline measurement - Ryan to forward [the document from Neal](#) for review and discussion at the next meeting

- c. Ryan to reach out to SERC contacts about Green Roof ordinance and potential Community Solar site candidates.