

**Swampscott Renewable Energy Committee
Minutes (Final)**

Tuesday 20 February, 2024 at 7:00 PM
Virtual Meeting on Zoom

The meeting was called to order at 7:02pm

Received by Town Clerk
April 3, 2024

Attendees:

Martha Schmitt, Ryan Hale, Dave Zalanowski, Rich Frenkel, Doug Thompson
Member of the community: Maura Lau

1. Review/Approve minutes from the REC meeting held on January 23, 2023

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1LsFSloRy4G_502aVJMmoi-oF7I4DVt6XHK_f8kTalVc/edit

- o VOTE: Motion to approve: Ryan, 2nd: Dave, All Approve

2. Review plans for upcoming Community Meeting on “Specialized Energy Code Overview

- a. Meeting date and place: Tuesday Feb 27th, 7:30pm Swampscott High School. A notice was posted on the Town website and will be going out in the next newsletter.

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1TUrfb8aYwmBroIGAxX7rGIRZ-oCqpCN-/edit#slide=id.p1>

- b. Corrections and updates were made to this presentation as committee members reviewed it during the meeting
- c. Neal Duffy will be presenting the material. REC members will help facilitate and answer questions.
- d. Major points to stress: This code is defined by the state (not something that we have modified); the Specialized codes applies to new construction only; major renovations will need to follow the Stretch code
- e. Dave raised a question whether the Hadley project needs to comply with Specialized? Doug stated that this project would need to comply with the Stretch code; however if it is considered a historic building, there may be some flexibility.
- f. Rich asked how the town benefits? Ryan: less emissions, cleaner air longer term; Martha; approving Specialized code will help the town qualify to be a “Climate Leader”, a new DOER program and potential new grant opportunities to fund projects in town.

3. ARPA and Capital projects funding status. Doug stated no final decisions have been on distribution of ARPA funding. Ryan reported that most of the capital projects were approved except 2 that were put on hold, awaiting more project specific details.

4. Other business

- a. Martha attended presentations in Marblehead “Sustainable Marblehead” - presentations were done Sunday Feb 11th. Green Homes event is Saturday May 4th, 10-2. Marblehead would like to share information with Swampscott regarding Climate action and Renewable Energy activities.
- b. Earth Day is scheduled for Saturday April 29. A few ideas were discussed for tabling by REC, and potentially bringing some vendors in. Committee members were asked to bring other ideas to the next REC meeting.

- c. EV charging station update. The town has started to plan for some additional charging stations to be located at the Fire Station on Burrill St and at xx park. MassEVIP grants are available to cover a large portion of the funding.

 - d. Rich asked that we consider a bylaw that would require solar panels on large rooftops, similar to what Watertown has passed. Rich will forward the Watertown bylaw to the group for our review
5. Next meeting date: March 19, 2024

VOTE: Motion to adjourn by Ryan, 2nd by Rich. All Approved. 8:03pm