

Town of Derry, NH

Energy & Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

February 1, 2016

Attendees: Maureen Reno, Marc Flattes, Marius Zainea, Chris Cox, Tom Morini, Anthony Marciano, and Cindy Peaslee

1. Call to Order – Maureen Reno (7:01 PM)
  - a. Motion made to accept December 7th, 2015 minutes by Marc Flattes. Maureen Reno seconds. All in favor.
  
2. Chairman's Report
  - a. Mike Fowler sent around a press release about the LED Streetlight replacement project: Siemens will start replacing bulbs as soon as possible. This will be a limited effort until the Spring, utilizing one truck and a small crew.
  - b. Solar on Landfill project: Ameresco has not initiated much effort to start this project. Maureen discusses net metering. There is discussion at the State level focused on potentially lifting the statewide cap to 75 MW from 50 MW. This 50 MW represents 2% of the annual total electricity capacity in the State. This cap is the threshold where small power producers would receive full retail rate for the power they produce vs. the utilities cost of production. This legislative process to increase the cap will take months to approve and may be disruptive to the market. The real concern for Ameresco is whether they can get an off taker for the power produced. Cindy opens some discussion about the ability of individuals to sell power they produce. Marc, Anthony, and Maureen lead discussion about the difference between the New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Eversource and municipal-owned electric companies.
  
3. Old Business
  - a. New Transfer Station Launch: Maureen Reno thanks all of the committee volunteers that participated in helping orient residents at the new landfill opening during the first week of January. Some discussion about the confusion relating to some aspects of the site mostly around plastic and what is and what is not recyclable. Some had heard there was an issue with the new bailer. Marc indicates that for the bailer to work in cold weather a hydraulic heater is needed and will cost \$800.
  - b. EVCS: The Committee is finding difficulty in justifying this effort. Marc and Chris lead this discussion. Marc has run the numbers and this does not really make economic sense for the Town. Because of this and for all of the reasons cited at the December 7<sup>th</sup> meeting, this idea will be shelved for now. Marc will submit a brief report detailing the lack of economic logic for this effort.

- c. School District outreach: Letter has been sent. Jane Simard is actually on the Net Zero Task force. No meeting is planned at this time.
- d. CIP 2017: Cindy asks about how items/ideas that the EEAC develops would be considered for budget approval by the Town. Marc explains the Capital Improvement Project (CIP) process. Essentially there is a master list of possible projects/procurements that ultimately will be considered. The EEAC could develop items to include on this list.

#### 4. New Business

- a. Net Zero Derry Task Force: At the last Town Council meeting, Councilor Josh Bourdon announced the concept of a Net Zero Task Force. Councilor Bourdon has been asked to supply additional information about what the task force would look like. It will consist of 9 members from various Town committees and boards including the EEAC. Anthony Marciano asks what the task Force's major goals will be. Marc indicates that the goal will be to streamline and cut the Town's energy (electricity) use, to equal the amount of electricity produced. The Task Force will ask all of the major shareholders to set goals collectively. Extensive discussion by the Committee follows. Marc mentions the Honeywell, 2<sup>nd</sup> phase which is due out soon. Anthony asks about the lights in School parking relative to the LED replacement project. Anthony self nominates to be the EEAC member on the Net Zero Task Force. Cindy Peaslee asks to be an alternate. Maureen Reno seconds. All in favor.
- b. Junior Solar Sprint: Tom Morini lets the Committee know he will not renew his seat on the EEAC in March but he will continue to help with Junior Solar Sprint. Junior Solar Sprint will be held on June 4<sup>th</sup> at Gilbert Hood Middle School. Cindy Peaslee agrees to assist and play a role in helping organize the annual event.
- c. Other Events:
  - i. Maureen has been doing some work to book speakers for annual engagements, including Button Up and the Union of Concerned Scientists.
  - ii. Go Green has been making plans to have another Town trash pick-up. More on dates later.
  - iii. As per Maureen, On February 10<sup>th</sup> there will seminars/webinars regarding greenhouse gas initiative, and energy resilient communities. Also on Feb 10<sup>th</sup> SNHPC will host a meeting in Manchester to discuss sharing of energy costs by pooling resources.
  - iv. Feb 20<sup>th</sup>, there will be a snow shoe event at Broadview.
- d. Solar Up Chester-Derry final tallies: 31 PV projects were sold between Derry and Chester thru ReVision Energy, and an additional 51 systems were sold in the same time period by other vendors. The total was 82 new systems sold.
- e. Next meeting date in February 29<sup>th</sup>. Maureen motion to adjourn. Second by Anthony. (8:38 PM)