

Boxborough Energy Committee August 2015 Minutes

Date/Location: Wednesday, August 12, 2015, Town Hall

Attending: Members: Francie Nolde, Abby Reip, Margo Webber, Rebecca Morrison

BOS Representative: None

Guests: Jo-Ann Dery, Littleton Sustainability

Members Absent: Vince Amoroso, BOS Representative, Richard Garrison, Larry Grossman, Keshava Srivastava, Santiago Tapia-Perez

Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 9, 2015 6:30-7 at library prior to NE Clean Energy presentation. Next full meeting will be October 14, 2015, Town Hall.

Minutes

- July Minutes were approved.
- The committee agreed to have the November meeting on Thursday November 12, 2015, since November 11 is Veterans Day.
- Jim Elkind of New England Clean Energy will give a presentation titled “Why Solar, Why Now” at the Library from 7-9 on Wednesday September 9, 2015. This is the same night as the monthly Energy Committee meeting so the committee decided to have a half hour update meeting prior to the presentation as their September meeting. Francie will start posting the boards two weeks before the event.
- Jo-Ann Dery of the Littleton Sustainability Group attended the meeting. The Littleton Group had met earlier that day. Sarah Rambacher is in the process of painting signs with a gauge indicating what tier has been reached. Littleton is gearing up to have committee members hand out flyers at the football games and soccer games once school starts. Littleton is going to do a 10 minute Q&A video talking with the installer that will be put on the local cable TV. Jo-Ann is taking pictures of the new solar panels being installed to put on the newsletter. Littleton has a spreadsheet showing the location of the yard signs.
- Francie provided an update on the Solar Initiative. To date, three residents have signed up and Tier 2 has been reached. One of these residents just began their solar installation. There were 5 more potential residents who are going to sign up when they receive the written contract. NE Clean Energy has a list of 148 residents in Littleton and Boxborough who have expressed interest and will have their house evaluated.
- Publicity at Transfer Station – Abby went to the transfer station last Saturday and Margo and Francie went Wed night before the energy meeting. During both times the committee members found some residents who were uninterested, but also reached out to a few residents who were not aware of the initiative. The committee decided to wait a few weeks and then try again. On Saturday August 22, Abby will take an hour slot in the morning at the transfer station and will ask Keshava to take a slot too. Francie will be at the Transfer Station from 3-4. Margo will go to the Transfer Station Wednesday Sept 2 from 6-7. Littleton is also having a presence at their transfer station.

- Francie is going to reach out to the A-B schools to send information on the Solar Initiative through the e-newsletter. Abby will contact Beth Petr to get an announcement about the Sept 9 presentation to the Jr. High and Sr. High School weekly chatter email.
- Tax Bill – The next Tax bill is mailed September 30. Francie will ask Patrick if the Energy Committee can send out a flyer in the next tax bill. This flyer would need to be drafted by September 14, 2015, printed, cut and delivered to Patrick by September 21 to be mailed September 30. The wording will include language about what Tier the Solar Initiative has reached and how many days remain to sign up.
- Communications/Marketing – The two communication leads, Francie from Boxborough and Sarah from Littleton have been meeting with NE Clean Energy. They met last Wed Aug 5 and will meet again next Wed Aug 19.
- Harvest Fair – The Harvest Fair in Boxborough is September 12. Littleton also has a fair the same day. Boxborough has not signed up for a booth and there are no energy committee members available to man a booth. In addition, NE Clean Energy will already be at the Littleton event, so the committee decided to see if they could set up a poster with flyers for residents to take. Rebecca agreed to contact the Harvest Fair committee and see if a poster could be set up.
- Sarah Rambacher is painting free standing boards with a gauge. This gauge will indicate what Tier has been reached. The boards are four feet tall and 30 inches wide and are slid into an H-shaped free standing base. Sarah will also create a poster for the NE Clean Energy Presentation.
- There is an open house this Sunday from 1-3 on Hill Road in Boxborough.

Upcoming dates: A calendar has been set up on the LittleBoxSolar.com website

Littleton Third Thursday – August 20, 2015

New England Clean Energy Presentation – September 9, 2015 7-9

Littleton Harvest Fair – September 12, 2015

Acton Farmers Market - September 20, 10-1

Action items:

- Rebecca will find out if the Energy Committee can place a poster with flyers at the Harvest Fair.
- Abby will reach out to Beth Petr to put an announcement in the Sunday night weekly chatter about the New England Clean Energy Presentation.
- Francie will get information into the Blanchard School e-newsletter.
- Francie will contact Patrick about putting a flyer in the tax bill.
- Francie will contact Darryl Beardslee about working with businesses in Town to join the Solar Initiative.