

Boxborough Energy Committee July 2014 Minutes

Date/Location: Wednesday, July 9, 2014, Town Hall

Attending: Members: Francie Nolde, Margo Webber, Santiago Tapia-Perez, Richard Garrison, Abby Reip

BOS Representative: None

Guests: None

Members Absent: Larry Grossman, Kesahva Srivastava

Next Meeting: Wednesday, August 13, 2014, Town Hall.

Minutes

General business

- June 2014 minutes were approved. Next meeting will be August 13, 2014 and Kerin Crockett will be a guest.
- Kevin Goddard, LELD representative, suddenly passed away in June. Scott Edwards of LELD is the interim replacement.
- Francie met with Vicki about the recycling bins for the Town playing fields. The DPW will get two recycling bins with interior baskets through a grant. The bins will arrive in September. Francie ordered a third recycling bin with an interior basket with Energy Committee money. The committee discussed ordering a fourth recycling bin that could be placed at either Flerra or Liberty field and be used for large Town Events such as Fifers Day. Francie will evaluate how much money the Energy Committee still has and will check with Vicki about ordering a fourth recycling bin to be placed around Town and a fifth bin to be used as a “floating bin”.
- Abby is paying \$24 a month to maintain the survey monkey with the Solarize Survey. Abby will submit her bills to Francie who will submit the bills to the Town for reimbursement. The survey monkey will be on line from May through August.
- Francie presented information about Legislative Bill H-4185 that has been drafted. This bill is a compromise between Utility companies and the Solar Industry. This bill create a minimum bill for electricity customers to go toward distribution, limits the ability of a community to develop community based solar farms, limits the ability for owners to include storage and resiliency and the elimination of the SREC program.
- Margo informed the committee that LELD has a new computer system for billing and is unable to tabulate the past municipal building electric data. Margo will work with Selina to obtain the municipal building electric data from January through June 2014 from past bills. This will be tabulated into an excel spreadsheet and sent to Peregrine so it can be entered into the MEI database. Margo has asked Peregrine to work with LELD on their new computer system and set up a method that Boxborough municipal building electric data will be automatically transferred from the LELD computer system to Peregrine. Margo will check with Selina about the electric bills for the Blanchard School. Now that the School is handled by the ABRSD, who will pay for the Blanchard Electric bills?

- Margo discussed the information she learned about electricity pricing at a Mass Municipal workshop. Margo will send copies of the presentation to everyone.
- Margo has been working with Ani Krishnan of MAPC on questions he had about the Mass Energy Insight database.
- Francie indicated Rebecca Morris may be interested in joining the Energy Committee.

Main Discussion

Solarize Boxborough Survey – The energy committee needs to determine if they want to continue evaluating a Solarize program in Boxborough. The survey monkey is available until the end of August 2014. Abby will look at getting Solarize information and the link to the survey on the Town of Boxborough website and including wording on the Town Website that encourages residents to fill out the survey. A flyer about the Solarize Survey Monkey went out in the June Tax bill. Before the next meeting, Santiago will summarize the results of the Solarize survey. At the August meeting, the committee will look at the results and decide if the committee wants to pursue an information meeting on the Solarize program.

Action Items

- Abby will work with Selina to get the Solarize Boxborough flyer and survey information on the Town website.
- Abby will submit receipts for Solar Monkey survey to Francie for reimbursement.
- Santiago will evaluate the survey monkey results before the next Energy meeting and bring the results to the August meeting.
- Francie will talk to Vicki about getting a fourth recycling bin and interior basket and talk to Selina about placing a bin at Blanchard.
- Francie will contact Kate Crosby to see if she also wants to attend the August meeting when Kerin Crockett is at the meeting.
- Margo will work with Selina on getting Jan-June 2014 municipal building electric data into a spreadsheet for Peregrine.
- Margo will work with Ani Krishnan on getting information for the MEI website and the MAPC report.