

Boxborough Energy Committee May 2014 Minutes

Date/Location: Wednesday, May7, 2014, Town Hall

Attending: Members: Francie Nolde, Margo Webber, Santiago Tapia-Perez, Kesahva Srivastava, Abby Reip

BOS Representative: Raid Suleiman

Guests: None

Members Absent: Larry Grossman, Richard Garrison, Kevin Goddard, LELD

Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 11, 2014, Town Hall.

Minutes

General business

- April minutes were approved. Next meeting will be June 11, 2014. This will be the last meeting Raid is the BOS Representative. Vince Amoroso will be the BOS Representative starting in July.
- Town meeting begins May 12, 2014. David Lindberg put a warrant article on the Town Meeting agenda asking for \$15,000 for insulating the Town Hall. The cost is \$12,000, plus additional mark up for prevailing wage considerations. There is an estimated savings of 550 therms/year, but this will also reduce drafts in the building and the heating equipment cycling on and off.
- The Town budget for the energy committee will be increased from \$200 to \$800 so the Energy Committee can purchase recycling bins for the playing fields.
- The finance committee will not discuss capital plan issues until September. After Town Meeting, Francie, Dave Lindberg and the Energy Committee will discuss what recommendations from the National Grid audits the Town should pursue. Dave and Francie will bring these recommendations to the finance committee for review.
- LELD did not apply for the MAPC/DOER grant. There were too many restrictions and no guarantee that if they paid in to the program they would get the money. Raid suggested coming up with wish lists each year and asking LELD for help in the projects since we are unable to apply for grants.

Main Discussion

Solarize Boxborough Survey – A survey has been created on Survey Monkey to determine the interest of Boxborough residents in the Town pursuing a Solarize program. A small flyer has been created with the website for the survey monkey that will be included in the June tax bill. The survey will also be put on the website.

The committee determined that in the interim, the Energy Committee would create a hard copy of the survey and a one page info sheet on the Solarize program to hand out at Town Meeting.

A box will be left at the back of Town Meeting for completed solarize surveys to be dropped in. Santiago will enter the surveys into the Survey Monkey. Francie will ask John Fallon if the surveys can be handed out and ask him to mention the survey at the start of Town Meeting. The brochure should also mention that the nearby Towns of Harvard, Stow, Acton and Concord have all participated in the Solarize program. The LELD electric rates are very low and the pay back is not as good as the other Towns so the marketing piece should include that installing solar panels is good for the environment, improves resale of the house, etc.

Action Items

- Abby will generate flyer on Solarize Boxborough and flyer with survey and survey monkey website to be handed out at Town Meeting.
- Santiago agreed to enter all survey data collected at Town Meeting into survey monkey.
- Francie will ask LELD for more information on net meeting.
- Francie will ask John Fallon about handing out Solarize survey at Town Meeting and see if he will mention the survey in his opening talk.