

TOWN of BECKET
ENERGY COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: July 21, 2016

Time: 9:30 AM

Location: Becket Town Hall, Becket Room

557 Main Street, Becket 01223

Present: Garth Klimchuck, Robert Gross, Al Blake, Cathy DeFoe,
Katherine Hoak, Ed Gibson

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:39 AM.
2. The minutes of May 19, 2016 were approved. Katherine made the motion, Cathy seconded it, all approved.
- 3b. The BEC officers signed the Code of Conduct form and Ed witnessed each.
- 3c. Information on the Community Solar Project was updated.
 - 101,000 kwh is consumed annually in all town buildings.
 - Berkshire Regional School District, which is interested in community solar, consumes 230,000 kwh annually.
 - Washington is also interested in joining us for community solar.
 - Syncarpha is offering a community shared solar, possible because we are all in Eversource territory. Eversource would offer a 12% discount. Syncarpha will do all the marketing for this project here.
 - Considerations: aggregation, whole collective town use by residents, businesses, town, etc. Everyone has the option of opting out of it. We need to determine what would be most beneficial for our town. Solar on the town hall roof is likely. That would lower the amount of the 101,000 kwh consumed. We need to move forward with Community Solar. Can we do that and also

aggregation, which would be done with another agency? This is to be determined.

--Deadlines: when we are ready to produce our own energy with community solar, and when a connection could be made commercially with the National Grid. We can't make decisions until we understand aggregation better than we now do. Both Ed & Garth will contact other communities to learn of their experiences with it.

3a. We had elections, the results being Garth as Chair. If he cannot attend a meeting, he will notify Bob who will then take over. Bob is the continuing vice-chair. Katherine will continue to be clerk/secretary.

3e. Information Session Planning, probably to be held Sept. 10, 2016 at Becket Town Hall.

--It will include updating residents on the latest legislation in re Solar, wind, etc. energy.

--Speaker will be Jim Barry, DOER.

--We will inform residents of our activities in re community solar, including small wind bylaws, hybrids including heat pumps (rebates given for these purchases.) Also Co-op which offers solar to smaller entities.


4. There were no new items offered.

5. No other business was offered.

6. The next meeting will be on August 18th, Thursday, at 9:30 AM

7. The meeting was adjourned at 10:41 AM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Katherine Hoak, Secretary

 _____ Chair 8/18/2016 _____ Date