

TOWN OF BECKET
ENERGY COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: July 20, 2017

Time: 9:30 AM

Location: Becket Town Hall Becket Room

557Main Street, Becket

In Attendance: Morgan Taylor, Garth Klimchuk, Robert Gross, Al Blake, Cathy DeFoe, Katherine Hoak, Ed Gibson

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:30 AM.
2. The minutes of the June meeting were revised and unanimously approved.
3. Current business items:
 - a. We had a discussion with Morgan Taylor, Facilities Manager at Jacob's Pillow Dance. The Pillow will buy solar power from COOP which will begin in the summer 2018 at 100 MW of power. Berkshire Engineering in Lee did the home-site assessment. The Pillow has been replacing windows and insulating buildings. It uses about 350 KW annually, has 220 total acreage, much of which is wetlands and is uncleared. This new installation will not be able to provide enough power to satisfy all the Pillow's needs. It is interested in joining Becket for a community solar project.
 - b. COOP Power: we had a phone discussion with Alex from COOP. We had a copy of its proposal for a ground mount option in Becket. In the property being considered is a septic system. Also considered for this site is high-capacity internet broadband which the town will own, and an expanded parking lot.
Potential clients for the COOP project are Eversource clients.
 - c. Because COOP will not be able to participate in our info session, we will ask them to provide hand-outs for that session.
 - d. SolarizeMass Program-we and the Town of Washington have agreed to apply to be a part of this program. The Becket Board of Selectmen have agreed to this joint application for the SolarizeMass program. Several communities can join it to increase their ability to install community solar projects.
 - e. We discussed opening the Energy Committee's membership to those who are interested in joining it. We learned that such a move would raise the quorum, making it more possible that meetings would need to be canceled for lack of a quorum. The Board of Selectmen is

opposed to increasing membership because there are committees with openings on them which have not been filled to date. We also discussed the possibility of changing the time of our meetings to enable some of our ex officio members to attend. (Ed will speak to Dan about this.)

- f. Cathy, whose membership on the EC was expiring, was reappointed to it.
- 4. New items—none were presented.
- 5. There was no other business presented to the EC.
- 6. The next meeting will be held on August 17th. 2017.
- 7. The meeting was adjourned at 10:33 AM.

Alan Blake

9/21/17