

**TOWN OF BECKET**  
**ENERGY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Date: November 21, 2017**

**Time: 3:30 AM**

**Location: Becket Town Hall, Becket Room**  
**557 Main Street, Becket**

In Attendance: Robert Gross, Al Blake, Cathy DeFoe, Katherine Hoak, Ed Gibson, Bill Girard, Dan Parnell

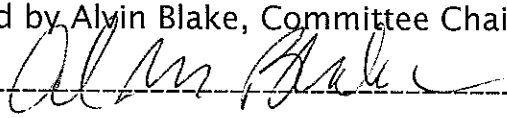
Absent: Garth Klimchuck

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:30 PM.
2. The minutes of the meeting on October 17 were reviewed and approved.
3. Current business items:
  - a. Coop Power use of town property update from Bob on potential sites. Bob spoke with Lynn Benander from Coop Power regarding Jacob's Pillow willingness to provide a site for community power for Becket residents. Lynn prefers that we not approach Jacob's Pillow directly. There may be a 10% power cost deduction open to the community in the solar array underway at Jacobs Pillow. Permitting is not yet complete for this project and the installation will not be finished until next spring at the earliest. Bob will also follow up on the Coop power site in Hinsdale.
  - b. Bob also approached Malcom Bliss, CEO from Coop Power to determine if he had individuals interested in sharing a list of potential investors in a Coop solar array in Becket and financial modeling information about the new solar development standards. Bob is waiting to hear back from him. Bob will also see if it makes sense after review with Bob to send out a solicitation to our info share attendees for interest in community solar.
  - c. Bill Girard mentioned that we have a development in process for a 25kW solar field now with the expectation that this can be expanded in the future with a priority for an existing solar array. This property is near the Becket Motel and other small parcels throughout town. There is currently no bylaw covering this type of development.
  - d. Cathy will send Ed a spreadsheet with the initial information session attendees so Ed can create a distribution list of all information session attendees.
  - e. We reviewed the information on town website originally created by the committee. Cathy revised several of the documents. Bob will review the links on the home page and Cathy will check the links on the remaining pages. All simple changes will be given to Nina all together.
  - f. The Town of Becket achieved the next milestone of 20% reduction in municipal energy usage. This will allow the Town to be eligible for additional grants to improve energy efficiency.

- g. The new Town Administrator will have access to the grant list for the new funds we will have access to with our achievement of the next level in the Green Communities Act.
  - h. A Borrego representative called Bill looking for access to a site for battery storage. This solar field will generate \$40,000 - \$50,000 in revenue from the power generation.
  - i. The current large scale solar is for anything over 250 kW. Small scale solar bylaws are under review. Large scale solar bylaws were written to be under the review of the zoning board and a proposed change is in process to make this under the review of the planning board. Bob Gross has agreed to be the representative from the Energy Committee for this effort. This solar bylaw will be reviewed after the first of the year once new grant funds are available.
- 4. New Items - Al will create the Energy Committee report for the annual town report.
  - 5. Next meeting date - Dec 19, 2017 at NEW TIME \*\*\*3:30PM\*\*\*\*
  - 6. The meeting was adjourned at 4:04 PM.

Cathy DeFoe, Secretary

Signed by Alvin Blake, Committee Chair

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