

TOWN OF BECKET

ENERGY COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: September 20, 2018

Time: 9:30 AM

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

In Attendance: Al Blake, Katherine Hoak, Robert Gross, Cathy DeFoe, Garth Klimchuk, Bob Markel

Absent: Bill Girard

1. Meeting called to order at 9:33.
2. Approve minutes of previous meeting will be done next month. Bob Gross to issue.
3. Current business items:
 - a. Discuss use of town properties for solar
 - i. META grant status– No news formally, however in our energy information session, Jim Barry stated that the Town of Becket will get up to \$12,500 to hire a consultant for the air source heat pump systems, PV on site, etc. However, this will likely be delayed due to funding issues in Boston. If we receive the grant, Bob recommends that the Energy Committee make a recommendation on the consultant and then review this with the Selectboard. Al will contact Lynn from Coop Power for her recommendation on appropriate consultants.
 - ii. Solar by-law Changes – *The recently amended solar by law changes approved at the May 2018 ATM are in conflict with the Green Communities Act. At least one solar ground mounted system array of 250 kW or greater cannot require a special permit. We need to amend this by law at the a Special Town Meeting potentially in November. This amended by law change is in process and will be given input from Jim Barry, Bill Girard, and Al Blake. It is critical that this by law issue be resolved this calendar year so that we do not miss the deadline for additional green Communities funding that could be used for the town hall HVAC system.*
 - b. Status of town hall heating/ac replacement. - We are waiting for the grant to hire the consulatant to review options for the system as well as how to fund it.
 - c. Fall Energy Forum
 - i. Feedback from attendees and presentors. We had great questions and attendance.
 - ii. What to do with new emails of attendees. I will share any new email addresses with Beverly to add to the public mailings sent from the town.
 - d. Status of future Green Communities Grant. The energy audit on the town hall will be presented next Thursday at 1 pm.
 - e. Status of town aggregation program - This won't be available to Becket residents until next year. Our consultant has applied for the program. There won't be any activity until likely January or February next year.

- f. Discussion of Jacob's Pillow pursuing community solar – there appears to be an ongoing project review between Jacobs Pillow and Coop Power. Jacob's Pillow is spending the majority of their time and effort on their capital plan for building and grounds.

Next meeting October 25, 2018 at 9:30 am

Meeting adjourned at 10:26.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Al Blake", written over a horizontal line.

Al Blake, Chair