

Town of Hanover
Sustainable Hanover Committee
Minutes for Meeting of Oct. 15, 2014

Present: David McManus, Julia Griffin, Peter Kulbacki, Yolanda Baumgartner, Mary Ann Cadwallader, Susan Edwards, Chris Kennedy, Marjorie Rogalski, Jenna Musco (Dartmouth Sustainability Office), Kimberly Quirk (Energy Emporium)

Action items are highlighted in yellow.

1. The Minutes from the Oct 8, 2014, meeting were voted on and approved.
2. Susan Edwards reported that the annual Dartmouth-SHC Yard Sale raised \$1,725 and received a \$50 donation from the Friends of Football. The College prepared the parking lot and every slot available to vendors was filled. There was an excellent turnout and some logistical problems that came up will be addressed in a follow-up meeting between Susan and the College.

The final plant pot collection of the year was held on Sept 20 and went well.

3. Yolanda Baumgartner reported on the Solarize table at the Fallfest event. David and Marjorie joined her there. She felt it was a very worthwhile effort and gathered 14 names of people interested in being on the Solarize Hanover email contact list.

Yolanda has contacted Larry Danyluk of CRREL regarding a Solarize Hanover poster and spreading the word to the employees.

4. **Julia will re-confirm with CATV** that they will record the Oct 23rd launch event. The recording will then be made available on Youtube for people unable to attend in person.

Julia emailed a Solarize Hanover announcement to all members of Town Boards and Committees. The Solarize Hanover banner is installed on Main Street. She is also alerting the C of C, Rotary Club and speaking at the Lions' Club. There will be 4 transaction ads in the Valley News over the next 10 days. **Julia and Pete** will coordinate with the necessary town employees to utilize the **2 electronic highway** signs to announce the Launch event.

5. Jenna M. will circulate an announcement of the Launch event this week and another next week to the Dartmouth community.

6. Marjorie has given posters to the White Church and Friends' Meeting House and been in touch with people there. She will also contact the Lutheran church and possibly some other houses of worship.

7. Discussion regarding tabling at the Hanover Co-op resulted in pushing the effort to next week since Dartmouth Homecoming is scheduled for this weekend. Marjorie will contact Amanda Charland to see in its possible to schedule a table there for Mon or Tues.

Pete K will create an appropriately sized poster for the Co-op sandwich board upon receiving the correct dimensions.

8. Kim Quirk of the Energy Emporium, the designated installer for Solarize Hanover, explained the \$700 increase in pricing from her original proposal. While not necessarily required, the increase in price would match the 25 year warranty time frame for the invertor to that of the p.v. panels. The Committee approved her request for the price increase.

9. Kim reviewed her Oct 23 presentation which will include

--"Solar 101"

--the Finances of the purchase (no leases are allowed);

The proposal will include Tier 1 pricing. Any lowered pricing due to increased number of buyers will be offered as an amendment to the proposal after Jan 31, 2015, when the sign up period is closed.

Julia will contact the local banks who have offered to help with financing of the p.v. purchase. Julia and Sarah Simonds of Vital Communities will work communicate the schedule of payment information to the lending institutions. No banks will be present at the event.

10. Kim created a graph to illustrate the payback period for customers who receive a NH rebate as well as any who do not. Assuming an average cost of 19 ½ cents/kWh cost from Liberty Utilities, the purchase of a 5000 watt/20 panel array, AFTER incentives would cost \$11,400 with a 7-8 year payback.

If the customer does NOT receive a rebate, the payback period would be 9-10 years.

It was requested that **Kim** note the amount of **emissions avoided** by the use of solar energy.

11. Logistics: Once a customer has a successful site visit and signs a proposal, they would pay a \$2000 deposit. NB: this is a significant discount from Kim's usual required deposit.

The customer then arranges for financing as needed, works with Kim and the Town for a permit, and receives help with the rebate application which needs to be notarized. The rebate application should be mailed to State of NH as soon as possible.

One month after installation, the customer will pay 50% of the total cost.

Customers should allow 1 week for installation although most usually take only 2-3 days.

The final payment is due at Commissioning—when Energy Emporium will activate the system. It will then be turned off again until Liberty Utilities completes the interconnection to the grid.

Julia and Pete will work with Ryan Borkowski and Judy Brotman to streamline the Town permitting process.

Julia and Pete will work with Liberty to facilitate the interconnections as there might be numerous ones happening for a number of weeks.

Kim did not think that Liberty would reject the interconnection to any new p.v. arrays although that did happen with a smaller utility in VT.

12. Launch agenda: Julia will speak for approximately 10 minutes and explain the connection of the Green Power Community to the Solarize Hanover campaign.

Sarah Simonds will speak.

Kim will speak for about 20 minutes. Q & A to follow.

David McManus will close the program providing a personal aspect to why SHC is so excited about this.

A closing slide of “WHY YOU SHOULD DO THIS NOW” will include various reasons for purchasing solar energy during this project, i.e., discount pricing, strengthens local economy, ever increasing pricing from electric utilities, climate change, etc.

13. The Committee **will meet again Oct 22 at 8:30** for finalizing details of the Oct 23 Launch event.