

## **Sustainable Hanover Committee Meeting Minutes**

December 16, 2015

Members attending: Yolanda Baumgartner, Maryann Cadwallader, Mary Donin, Susan Edwards, Julia Griffin (Town Manager), Chris Kennedy, Peter Kulbacki (Public Works), Larry Litten, David McManus (chair).

Guests: Ariel Arwen (Sierra Club and Lebanon Energy Committee), Barbara Duncan (Sierra Club)

### **To-dos from the meeting**

**Peter** will continue to work on a town-managed curbside program and community solar options.

### **Meeting**

#### Agenda

Recycling sub-committee report - Susan  
Update on Landscape Working Group  
UNH Extension Ecological Design Workshop - Chris K  
C-PACE - Julia  
Update from Upper Valley Sierra Club - Ally and/or Ariel

#### UNH Extension Ecological Design Workshop

The committee voted to contribute \$200 to Chris Kennedy's attendance at a workshop on Community Training in Ecological Design: Creating Resilient Communities through Low Cost, Accessible Permaculture Design Solutions and Strategies that work with Nature presented by the University of New Hampshire Extension Service.

#### Landscape Working Group

Larry and Lyn Swett Miller will meet with Julia on January 7 to discuss private and public rain-garden/lawn-reduction pilot projects. The working group will next meet on January 14.

#### Recycling

Peter reported that he is working on developing a town-administered program to replace the Northeast Waste curbside recycling program due to a substantial increase in their price. The committee encouraged Peter to explore the possibility of dual-stream recycling (paper separated from other materials) in order to gain the income from paper.

## C-PACE

Recently passed New Hampshire legislation has enabled The Jordan Institute to develop a Property-Assessed Clean Energy program for commercial building owners. This program would provide loans for energy efficiency/renewable-energy improvements that would be assigned to the property, with loan payments collected when property taxes are paid (the town would forward the loan payments to the Jordan Institute). The Institute has requested that the town be one of the pilot projects in this program. A warrant article will be presented at the next town meeting for the adoption of the legislation that will permit such a program in Hanover.

When the PACE program is implemented, the SHC will explore offering a version of our recent Solarize Hanover program that was conducted in conjunction with Vital Communities for collective purchase of commercial solar installations at a discount.

## Green Power Challenge

Hanover's renewable energy data have been submitted to the Environmental Protection Agency for renewal of our Green Power Partner status (missing the Coop's data).

Resident's contracts with ENH for green power will end this fall; the SHC needs to plan for a renewal campaign (or for an alternative).

## Community Solar

Peter is exploring the costs of a community solar installation at the water treatment facility, although it is likely to be sized initially only to provide energy for the facility. Peterborough has created a community solar array on their landfill. This could be a spring field trip.

## Promoting Energy Efficiency

The committee needs to consider ways of encouraging energy efficiency beyond lightly attended programs such as the Button-up program we offered in the fall. Norwich has a post that records household participation in energy initiatives. Plymouth has teams of volunteers that help implement energy efficiency improvements for residents.

## Upcoming Forum

Ariel announced an upcoming forum: What Does a 100% Renewable Energy Future Look Like? National, State & Local Perspectives, , Wednesday January 20, 2016, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm, Filene Auditorium, Dartmouth College. It will consist of a panel discussion followed by questions and answers. The panel will include

Mark Jacobson, Stanford University (via Skype)

Clay Mitchell, New Hampshire Sustainable Energy Association

Rosi Kerr, Director of the Dartmouth Office of Sustainability

Solomon Diamond, Thayer School of Engineering professor

Submitted by Larry Litten