

Swampscott Energy Committee Meeting

Thursday, February 25th, 2016 at 7:00 pm
Swampscott Town Hall, Second Floor Meeting Room

Members Attending: Neal Duffy, Tara Gallagher, Rebecca LeBlanc, Milton Fistel,
Dan Dragani, Pete Kane, Wayne Spritz,

Non-Members Attending: Peter Spellios

Meeting Notes

1) 7:00 to 7:10 - Approval of previous meeting minutes - approved

2) 7:10 to 7:40 – Carbon Footprint update – Working with Dan, and other town employees, Rebecca has collected all of the data she needs to develop the town carbon footprint. Hoping to have the footprint ready for review on 3/21. Neal will present at Town Meeting which will be mid May. Will also hopefully present at the Board of Selectmen meeting in April. Rebecca wants comparative charts, maybe we use the 2009 Baseline? Tara suggested using the EPA benchmark as the comparative data. EPA can rank your buildings.

The committee discussed what would be presented at Town Meeting:

Pull some data from the Green Communities report but supplement with data/savings we have seen since.

Talk about the LED lights project and the savings we will see. Tie that into the carbon footprint reduction goal.

We can talk about how in some buildings we may see increased usage but the increase was less because of work that was done.

3) 7:40 to 8:00 – The committee discussed setting new/additional goal(s) for energy and emissions reductions –

There are some different approaches:

3%/yr. is one approach

Global Warming Solutions Act, Massachusetts (GWSA). Statewide goal:

25% by 2020 (using 1990 as base)

80% by 2050 (from IPCC)

Neal will reach out to the MAPC and Tara will contact folks at DOER/Green

Communities to get further information on this.

4) 8:00 to 8:15 - National Grid/Next Step Living program update –

Pete Kane – had group call with National Grid and the other communities participating. We had 17 Assessments for January and 8 air sealing and 9 insulation installations completed. No heating systems. All REC members either had an assessment or scheduled one at the time of this meeting. We hope to do some further outreach, put an article in the local paper featuring Tom Dreeben and his experience. The committee also plans on challenging another group to sign up for assessments, likely the Conservation Committee.

5) 8:15 to 8:30 – Middle School Energy Reduction report –

The report showed some significant reduction at the Middle School since the start of the behavior modification program.

6) 8:30 to 8:40 - Streetlights discussion and update –

Committee members still need to survey other LED lights in the area. Dan Dragani said there is one on Lexington Circle, there is one in Marblehead on Pleasant St. near the 3 Cod Tavern, and there are many in Salem in most if not all residential neighborhoods. The town is requesting approximately \$225,000 at Town Meeting to pay for roughly half of the project, the other half coming from Green Communities.

7) 8:40 to 8:50 - Harbor Breakwater update – Milton Fistel reported that the Harbor Advisory Further work needs to be done both on the community level and with Coastal Zone Management and the Army Corps of Engineers. Neal had no updates on the viability of incorporating a wave energy project within the breakwater and is continuing to research the idea.

6) 8:50 to 9:00 – Any other business that comes before the committee

Demonstration Wind Turbine project at the High School – The project is in somewhat of a holding pattern because the students involved in it are preparing for AP tests. They are not going to be able to complete the project this year.

Meeting adjourned – 8:52 PM

