

Minutes, Wayland Energy Initiatives Advisory Committee
03/11/2015; 7:30 pm (approved 3/25/15, 3-0)

Attendees:

| Name | Association | Name | Association |
|----------------|-------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|
| Ellen Tohn | Energy Comm, Member | Tom Sciacca | Energy Comm, Member |
| Anne Harris | Energy Comm, Member | Mike Staiti | Energy Comm, Associate Member |
| John Harper | Energy Comm, Associate Member | Corinne Lenk | Energy Comm, Associate Member |
| Cherry Karlson | BoS | Bill Huss | Energy Comm, Member |

Minutes:

Planned updates to Energy Comm website are slow in execution due to the Town administration staff commitments related to Town Meeting and warrant preparation. Suggestion to reach out to other staff who can help us post key documents

Discussion on which solar project partners to invite to the March 18 Public Forum

- Solaire is available but Committee feels that their participation will not be overly beneficial to the forum; they provided input and responses to key questions
- Ameresco will attend

Discussion on slides for solar forum. Use basic content from Project Summary and previous presentations. Add information to address:

- Similar solar projects in other MA towns
- Ameresco's Solar experience
 - Ameresco has worked with #XX communities
 - List of projects
 - Work in pictures where possible
 - Ameresco's track record
- Other local solar projects (not necessarily Ameresco related)
 - Total # of other community solar projects, list towns that are nearby or similar to Wayland
 - Work in pictures where possible
- Milestone dates showing Town Meeting, PPA negotiation, site construction start dates and completion dates → stress that Wayland will be enjoying economic benefit from this project this fall or once project is on line
- Robustness of Solaire's canopy designs and how they account for snow loads
- Educational benefits to town to showing Ameresco's dashboard viewcharts (add this in FAQ doc too)
- List of considered and rejected sites such as the landfills

Discussion on hard copy materials for forum

- Renderings of the 4 sites showing 3D view of canopies

8:00 pm phone call with Ameresco and Solaire

- Request hard copies of the renderings also called 3D views
- Request participation of Mike Zimmer at the forum
- Discussion on Solaire's experience with canopies in winter climates
 - Solaire recommends reach out to communities who have lived with their canopies for some time and can share their experiences
 - Rutgers University has a very large installation which 100s of students park under every day and no issues have been reported
- Discussion on pros/cons of water management systems
 - Danversport canopy does not have a water management system; it is a single tilt canopy over a remote parking lot at a yacht club

- In Fortune 500 companies and other high profile installations, water management is installed partially as a perception aide not as a functional benefit because users perceive the installation to be “better”; functional benefit is debatable
- Overwhelming majority of solar installations in the world do not have water management. The proposed Ameresco/Solaire design for Wayland with no water management system would feel to someone standing under it just like standing under a tree (this analogy was provide by Solaire), roughly 6-8 ft panel that protects you but water has access at the edges
- Mini icicles could possibly form in the tiny gap 3/8” between panels but larger in diameter icicles cannot form, mini icicles only
- Committee asked for Solaire comments on news reports of a collapse of 2 canopies in NJ (these projects were **not** undertaken by Solaire or Ameresco): Solaire response: 1. Careless engineering, canopies toppled over from weight of snow because an engineer took short cuts with anchor bolts which were not robust enough; 2. Other canopy imploded due to failure at purlins which were undersized for the installation → Solaire's policy is to meet the structural performance requirements even if the solution is not the lowest cost in the field, value the quality of their installations and the company's reputation

The committee discussed the need to know the financial impacts if Town Meeting or Solar Forum attendees wanted to know about alternatives to the 4 sites (e.g., 3 sites without Town Building; DPW roof only)

- Mike Zimmer / Ameresco will report back with a financial projection showing PPA and other costs for the project if all canopies were removed and only the DPW roof project was included. The committee already has the financial projections for 3 sites without the Town Building.

Discussion on Project Summary handout

- Include net metering graphic as a color hand out
- Change site lay-out images to rendering images with 3D views of the canopies
- Add sentence on how the financial benefits are available now but may not be available later due to instability in the future NMC so this is an opportune time to execute
- Add detail on educational opportunities to the “benefit” section

Discussion on FAQs

- Consider two FAQ documents: one all inclusive, long document to post on the website while the FAQ handout contains only the most commonly asked questions with short, simple answers and removes items that are already included in the project summary document
- Committee works through each of FAQ and decides which to be included
- Further discussion on FAQ format such that online version includes the short answer followed by the longer, more detailed answer
- Remove “PPA” header and edit it into “Contracts, Construction, and Canopies”

Committee authorizes Ellen to edit the FAQ document into a top 12 FAQs for handout at the forum; Ellen will consult with Mike, John and Bill for accuracy and brevity

Committee authorizes Ellen and Corinne to finalize the Project Summary

Committee on agenda of PMBC for 01 April

Committee on BoS agenda for 3/16

- Need to supply updated project summary by Thursday night 3/12
- John Harper's chart with fiscal summary showing numbers rounded to nearest 100
- Peregrine report
- Graphic on money flow between Ameresco, Town of Wayland, and Eversource/utility

ESCO savings being tracked by Ben Keefe by building through Mass Energy Insight and he can speak to this during Town Meeting; Committee to work with Ben to ensure all relevant points are fresh

Town Meeting Monday, April 6

Moderator’s Forum March 25, 7pm.-8pm. ESCO article first, Solar later.

Next Energy Comm meeting for 8 pm on 25th March after Moderator’s Forum. AH will post.

CL 3/11/15