

**Wellfleet Energy Committee
Minutes of the Meeting of October 21, 2013
Council on Aging
6:00 p.m.**

Present: Chair Marcus Springer, Lilli-Ann Green, Edmond Doyle, Teresa Parker, Charles Cole, Richard Elkin, Thomas Reinhart

Excused Absence: John Ryerson and Isaac Sargent

Chair Marcus Springer called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

A request to tape record the meeting by Lilli-Ann Green was made and the request was granted by the Wellfleet Energy Committee (WEC) Chair, Marcus Springer.

BUSINESS

Minutes of the September 16, 2013 meeting: Chair Marcus Springer asked for several revisions to the minutes of the 9/16/13 WEC meeting. ¹ Lilli-Ann Green took notes and stated that the revisions would be made.

Motion: Green moved to accept minutes with revisions as discussed. Seconded by Edmond Doyle. Richard Elkin said he wanted to see the revisions to the minutes first. Motion did not carry 4-2. (Green, Doyle)

Review of RFP submission for Solarize MA program:

Motion: Lilli-Ann Green moved to accept the latest version of the RFP for the MassCEC Solarize MA program that she emailed as the RFP to be submitted to MassCEC. ^{2a, 2b} Seconded by Charles Cole.

Discussion ensued. Green stated that she has offered numerous times to be an integral part of any initiative regarding scalable solar PV panels for rooftops of Wellfleet property owners. She has tried since she has become a member of WEC to advance this concept of a coordinated effort to work with Wellfleet property owners regarding a program for people to purchase solar PV in bulk and thereby drive the costs down. She has offered many times to take the lead on coordinating a program to implement a community-wide scalable roof top solar PV program. She would like to be at least listed on the RFP as the Outreach and Education Coordinator. She has an extensive background in developing and implementing educational programs since the 1970s. She has an extensive background in community outreach on the Lower Cape since the mid 1970s. As CEO of a consulting firm with a national reach she coordinates with many different stakeholders. In the development of a number of programs she has been in charge of, there is coordination with more than 100 people nation-wide. She is a member of WEC, a property owner in Wellfleet, a registered voter and would like to volunteer her skills, expertise and talents for free to move this program forward. Edmond Doyle would like to volunteer his skills expertise and talents for free to be listed on the RFP as the Media Relations and PR Coordinator. His background is extensive as he was in charge of an international company focused on engineering. He was in charge of the marketing and advertising of the company as well as liaison to government agencies and all stakeholders. Green stated that she and Edmond Doyle are more suited to these positions than two paid employees of the Mass Audubon Society (MAS) Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary (WBWS) that Chair Marcus Springer and Richard Elkin have inserted into the RFP.

Richard Elkin stated that if MassCEC accepts Wellfleet's RFP and Green and Doyle are part of the team that he and Springer are on, all meetings will have to be noticed 48 hours in advance and held in as public meetings but if the two MAS WBWS employees are on the team then they can meet and move forward without conducting a public meeting.

Teresa Parker stated that she thought it was great that two professionals could be involved with the Solarize MA program. The Tern Foundation has offered to fund the salaries for the two employees. The funds are significant and it is thought it would be beneficial.

Green stated it is her opinion that it is inappropriate for MAS WBWS to be involved with a town project especially since MAS WBWS has a controversial proposal before one of the town boards. Furthermore, there are two Wellfleet volunteers who are on the WEC and are willing to collaborate and coordinate with the other members of WEC and the Wellfleet community. Everything done by WEC should be fully transparent. There is no need for MAS WBWS to be involved. Green also stated that there was a big deal made of a non-profit organization that offered its services but members of WEC refused to work with the non-profit organization because it was not Wellfleet based. It was Provincetown based. The Tern Foundation is not Wellfleet based. MAS WBWS does not represent all stakeholders in Wellfleet and it is the opinion of Green that it may be detrimental to the outcome of the project to involve an organization that does not represent all stakeholders in our community. The MassCEC program is intended to be a community-wide project and the 'lead team' should be WEC member volunteers in the town of Wellfleet.

Chair Marcus Springer summarized the qualifications of the two MAS WBWS employees. He stated that the Solar Challenge model could be a follow on to the MassCEC Solarize MA program. Richard Elkin stated that the MassCEC did respond to the questions that WEC submitted.³ MassCEC said that they would not extend the timeline for Wellfleet in order to engage the seasonal home owners. He said that MassCEC did extend the timeline for the town of Arlington in a different situation so maybe MassCEC will do so for Wellfleet if we are chosen and as the program unfolds. Chair Marcus Springer talked about perhaps the solar vendors bidding for the Solar Challenge program will meet the pricing of the MassCEC program where the tiered approach could be carried forward. Richard Elkin stated this could be problematic. Lilli-Ann Green stated that the year round people who signed up during the MassCEC program would most likely not receive the greatest reduction in pricing possible under this plan. There are two reasons, first the MassCEC program sign up will run from January 2014 – June 2014. People who are in this group benefit from a reduction in price based upon a tiered system and the quantity of solar PV roof top panels people sign up for. Then the Solar Challenge would in theory run from June 2014 – December 2014. The people who sign up with MassCEC will not be able to benefit from the bulk purchase of everyone from January – December. If everyone was grouped together from January – December then year rounders would most likely receive a greater price reduction than just being grouped with people from January – June. The other factor is that MassCEC determines the tiers with pricing as well as other factors. From the research that Green conducted and in keeping with Open Meeting Law, the solar vendors she interviewed were invited to attend WEC meetings. The vendors were interviewed by WEC and told WEC that the pricing strategy they could offer to Wellfleet was more beneficial to our community than the MassCEC pricing structure.

Green stated that there have been a number of Open Meeting Law violations since the last WEC meeting. She does not want to do anything to harm the town that she cares deeply about but that it is critical that this committee follow Open Meeting Law.⁴ Springer stated that he has been in

communication with the Town Administrator regarding Open Meeting Law and that he has told the Town Administrator that Green is an obstructionist.

Motion: To accept the latest version of the RFP for the MassCEC Solarize MA program that Green emailed as the RFP to be submitted to MassCEC did not carry 4-2 (Green, Doyle).

Motion: Lilli-Ann Green moved to not take any further action on submitting an RFP to MassCEC for the Solarize MA program until a pending investigation with the Massachusetts Ethics Commission regarding potential conflicts of interest with members of WEC and Mass Audubon are resolved as well as until Open Meeting Law violations are resolved. Seconded by Edmond Doyle.

A conversation ensued regarding hearsay that there is a pending investigation with the MA Ethics Commission. Open Meeting Law violations, some of which have been outlined in an email of October 8th will be formally submitted.

Motion: Motion failed 4-2 (Green, Doyle).

Motion: Teresa Parker moved to have the WEC ask the Wellfleet Board of Selectmen to remove Lilli-Ann Green from the WEC since she is an obstructionist. Chair Marcus Springer seconded. A discussion ensued. Lilli-Ann Green stated that she is trying to work with this committee and has offered her volunteer time repeatedly. In fact, earlier in the meeting she offered her volunteer time and it was refused. In her career she collaborates with hundreds of people all throughout the United States. This is an irony. Richard Elkin stated this is not on the agenda so we can not discuss this. Motion was withdrawn.

Motion: Teresa Parker moved to include an agenda item for next meeting to discuss Lilli-Ann Green's participation in WEC. Chair Marcus Springer seconded.

Lilli-Ann Green objected. What is the message to volunteers in our town if they have a minority opinion? It is serious to think that you will have a person removed from a committee if there are Open Meeting Law violations and this person shines a light of these Open Meeting Law violations.

The motion carried 4-2 (Green, Doyle).

Richard Elkin asked if WEC members not listed on the RFP to apply for the MassCEC Solarize MA program that Chair Marcus Springer emailed to WEC members would like to be listed as volunteers on the RFP. Springer and Elkin are listed on the RFP. Edmond Doyle, Charles Cole, Teresa Parker and Lilli-Ann Green signed the form to be listed as volunteers. Richard Elkin stated that the solar subcommittee talked about at the last WEC meeting should meet. Green asked who submits the RFP. Chair Marcus Springer stated that he would do so electronically. It was confirmed that there are more than 1,000 owner occupied homes in Wellfleet. Charles Cole asked when MassCEC would determine which communities are selected. Chair Marcus Springer said it would be in late November or December. Lilli-Ann Green said that it looked like the deadline to submit the RFP was extended to October 30th. Chair Marcus Springer said that there were some confusion about some dates on the MassCEC website but he had inquired about the deadline to submit and RFP and it is October 22, 2013.

Motion: Richard Elkin moved that the RFP emailed by Chair Marcus Springer be submitted to MassCEC by end of business on October 22, 2013.^{5a, 5b} Seconded by Chair Marcus Springer. Motion carried 5-1 (Green)

Other business:

Correspondence: Lilli-Ann Green was in Town Hall on October 17th for a different matter and asked if Chair Marcus Springer had inquired about if the WEC has a mail box. Green was shown the location of the mail box which contained information. Green asked what the proper procedure for the Wellfleet Energy Committee to obtain correspondence is and was told that it was up to the committee to determine a correspondence policy. It was the majority opinion of the WEC that this topic would be discussed at a future meeting.

Motion: Chair Marcus Springer moved to adjourn the meeting. Charles Cole seconded. The motion carried 6-0. The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Lilli-Ann Green, Committee Secretary

¹ Draft Minutes of the 9-16-13 WEC

^{2a, 2b} Draft RFP submission as emailed by Lilli-Ann Green

³ Questions from WEC submitted to MassCEC and answers received from MassCEC

⁴ Email to WEC members regarding Open Meeting Law Violations

^{5a, 5b} Draft RFP submission as emailed by Chair Marcus Springer