

Wellfleet Energy Committee
Minutes of the Meeting of February 24, 2014
Council on Aging
7:00 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.

A meeting of WEC was in progress at 6:50 pm and according to WEC member Parker, she had been there since 6:00 pm and the WEC had discussed two items. Green objected as the meeting was posted to begin at 7:00 pm. Springer and Elkin strenuously objected. Green insisted the meeting officially begin at 7:00 pm as posted.

Present: Chair Marcus Springer, Lilli-Ann Green, Vasilios Katsourias, Charles Cole and Richard Elkin

Absence: Edmond Doyle, Isaac Sargent, and Teresa Parker (who was present from 6:00 – 7:00)

Guests: Tim King, Wellfleet Assistant Town Administrator, Howard Gostin and Larry Franke

Chair Marcus Springer called the official meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

BUSINESS

Chair Marcus Springer told Green that she was no longer taking minutes for WEC stating that WEC decided this at the last meeting where Green was not present and it is in the minutes for the meeting of 1/27/14. Green objected stating that she listened to the tape recording of the meeting and the only reference to the Secretary's duties was that Springer offered to take minutes for that meeting since Green was not present. Furthermore, Springer stated on record at the 1/27/14 meeting "Lilli can remain the Secretary of the committee, that's fine." Green stated the duties of Secretary are to take minutes and there was nothing on the agenda of the January meeting or on the current meeting regarding removing her as Secretary. Green was called names and falsely accused of wrong doing. Green was told that her minutes of the current meeting would not be accepted by WEC. Green objected. A long discussion was held even though Green objected this was not on the agenda and could not be discussed.

Minutes of the November 18, 2013 meeting¹: Springer requested revision to change Excused absence to Absence for WEC member and alternate.

Motion: Green moved to accept minutes with revision. Seconded by Cole. The motion carried 5-0.

Minutes of the December 16, 2013 meeting²: Springer requested revision to change Excused absence to Absence for WEC member and alternate.

Motion: Green moved to accept minutes with revision. Seconded by Springer. The motion carried 5-0.

Minutes of 01/27/14 meeting³: Green made requests for revisions. The time the meeting began is not listed. The statement: "Chair Marcus Springer will henceforth take and distribute all of the WEC meeting minutes." Please change sentence to 'Springer volunteered to take minutes in Green's absence', which reflects the audio tape of the meeting. Under Green Communities Act, there is no second for the motion. CLC Aggregation Plan is not on the agenda of the meeting. Green stated it would be helpful if there is an agenda item called Old Business and one called Future Concerns. The line 'AG and IG have declined to investigate CLC and CVEC' needs to be deleted. It is not on the audio tape. CLC, CVEC, CDP, ZBA, FinComm and BoS should be spelled out and the acronym in parenthesis following, the first time used in document. Minutes

should be labeled DRAFT in footer until approved. There is no motion to adjourn the meeting, no second and no recorded vote. Springer agreed to make revisions suggested.

Springer brought up the CLC Aggregation Plan⁷⁻¹³ as the next item to discuss. Green stated the item is not on the agenda. Green supplied Springer with the agenda which she had printed an extra copy of in case the Chair needed the agenda for the meeting.

Solarize Wellfleet. Update and Schedule: Elkin presented an overview to date. There have been three meetings held with a large turn out at each meeting. 125 people attended the first meeting, 100 at the second and 75 at the third. The next large meeting will be in April during a weekend with the aim to attract more non-residents as the school vacation weeks in MA and NY intersect. The Non-Resident Tax Payers Association advertised the program and 12 people signed up after the notice was delivered. There are over 200 property owners interested to participate in the program at this point. The plan is to hold a series of smaller meetings with volunteers. Power purchase agreements (PPA) may be a good plan for many residents in Wellfleet and the smaller meetings will address the benefits of a PPA. Green and Elkin clarified questions of WEC members regarding the greatest discounts for property owners available is Tier 5 which is 200 kw of installed capacity or approximately 40-50 homes with solar panels. It is recommended that solar panels are placed on a roof that is less than 10 years old. If it is needed to replace a roof it would cost approximately \$1,500 to take the panels off of the roof and put back when the roof has been replaced. All contracts need to be signed by June 30th. Green stated there was a letter in the WEC correspondence file from the Assistant Town Administrator to the Town Clerk stating that The Massachusetts Clean Energy Center has mailed the grant check for Solarize Wellfleet to the town. The process for accounting for the grant was discussed. Elkin answered questions, stating that extra energy produced by the solar panels on a property owner's roof can be used for any other NStar bill in MA and as many properties as one would like. Donations of extra energy may be made to the Town of Wellfleet and/or non-profit organizations and it is possible this can have tax benefits. Lawn signs are desired and logistics were discussed. Green offered to help with signs. Green suggested placing a flier in the next town-wide mailing as advertising for Solarize Wellfleet. It was discussed and all WEC members were in support. Green offered to follow up. Katsaurias suggested producing a large-scale map with pins to show the location of solar panels in Wellfleet. Green asked for the following clarification: The Massachusetts Audubon Society Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary (MAS WBWS) is having a role in the Solarize Wellfleet project with their paid employees as part of the solar team. Members of WEC have stated in the past that Mass Audubon's involvement in Solarize Wellfleet is totally separate from Mass Audubon and the wind turbine proposal. It is apples and oranges. Is that correct? Springer stated, there is no quid pro quo. Elkin stated there has been no discussion of wind turbines at any of the Solarize Wellfleet meetings at all. Green asked for further clarification: MAS and the WBWS will not use their involvement with Solarize Wellfleet as a means to move forward with their wind turbine proposal, is that correct? Elkin stated no one has ever discussed anything about wind turbines as part of this program. Springer agreed with Elkin that no one at Mass Audubon has ever discussed anything about wind turbines in relation to the Solarize Wellfleet program. Elkin and Springer discussed the marketing and advertising successes and involvement of Mass Audubon for Solarize Wellfleet. A solar vendor that is not a part of Solarize Wellfleet gave a presentation at the Wellfleet Library. Cole and Katsaurias attended and summarized the presentation. Guest Larry Franke has been involved in trying to accelerate the building permit process for Solarize Wellfleet. He presented an overview. Presently it takes approximately three weeks to get a building plan approved. Franke and the Assistant Town Administrator met with the Building Inspector. The Building Inspector thought

the process could take place in one week as this is a standardized program. Franke is working to color code paper work and further standardize the process.

Solar Challenge – July through October 2014. Next steps and schedule: Green stated that she would like to volunteer to take the lead on this project. All WEC members in attendance agreed. A discussion was held regarding details and benefits of this program.

Motion: Green moved that she has the authority to work with the town and the vendors to pursue the Wellfleet Solar Challenge program with updates to WEC. Seconded by Springer. The motion carried 5-0.

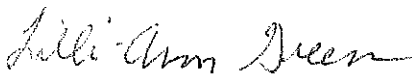
RFP process for capped landfill solar array: Springer has contacted NStar regarding a 400kw solar array for the capped landfill and was told NStar had no concerns about a system of this size. Springer agreed to email WEC members the NStar letter. A discussion regarding next steps took place. The Assistant Town Administrator answered several questions. Springer stated that we are not required to have an RFP for this project but agreed that an RFP is the right path to take. Springer will research how much it will cost to put out an RFP. A discussion took place regarding whether a warrant article and Town Meeting approval for the solar array would be needed or not. It was decided that it is desired to have a Town Meeting approval of the solar array.

Green Communities Act update: Springer introduced the topic of the Stretch Code warrant article. Green asked Cole if he has seen the wording for the Stretch Code warrant article. Cole said he has not. Springer stated that he emailed the language to Amy Voll after the January WEC meeting and copied WEC members. Green stated that she did not receive the email from Springer. Elkin stated he did not either. Green stated that today she received the email that Springer sent to Amy Voll from someone not on WEC and this was after the Planning Board had reviewed the email and stretch code language Springer had emailed. It was in the packet of the Planning Board before members of WEC had even seen the language for the warrant article. The material from the Planning Board insinuates that WEC members approved the language 4-0 and the cover email to Amy Voll states that WEC unanimously approved the warrant article. Green stated the process and procedure is improper and the article should be withdrawn. Springer said that the language is the same as last time. Green stated that the article was on the 2011 Town Meeting warrant. The only current WEC members who were WEC members in 2011 are Elkin and Springer. The other WEC members had not seen the language or debated this warrant article in a WEC meeting. Also, there was no indication on the January WEC agenda that Springer would want to place the article on the warrant in 2014 and WEC members did not receive any handouts regarding the language for the stretch code warrant article prior to the January WEC meeting. It had been discussed in prior WEC meetings that we would recommend to place this article on the 2015 warrant because we knew it was contentious, we needed to work on the objections in the community by holding public hearings and informational meetings prior to requesting to place this article on the warrant. Green was not aware that this would be discussed at the January meeting where it was known she would not be able to attend. Other committee members stated they had no objections to not knowing the language of the warrant article. Springer is working on the Energy Reduction Plan as well as the Vehicle Plan.

Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary Noise study update: Springer called Bob Prescott, Director of Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary and asked him for an update. His response is: They have not finished the noise update and they basically put it on hold. There is no study to be had. They are still trying to get answers to a number of sound related questions. They are not in a huge hurry to spend more money on getting the answers, however they will do it. However there is so much misunderstanding and misinformation about infrasound in particular that they are not too anxious to be drawn into the debate. They are doing more work on how bats use the area around Silver Spring and there are also a number of bat research projects that are coming together in MA and on the Cape. They feel this is a good time to gather more data about bats while trying to resolve the sound questions. If they decide to move forward with the turbine WEC will be first port of call for support for a wind turbine bylaw change. Guest Howard Gostin asked about the May 21, 2013 WEC meeting with WBWS and said the Director of the MAS WBWS stated he would make the noise study available to the public and WEC in a matter of days. As a committee he thought that we should require more respect and truth and he requested that we ask the Director of the WBWS to forward us the noise study that he intimated would be completed within days of the May 21, 2013 meeting. Green quoted from a handout she had emailed prior to the current meeting. The handout contains excerpts from the May 21st WEC meeting with MAS WBWS. The Director of the MAS WBWS said "we'll know better either tomorrow when the Epsilon report comes out [MAY 22], or Thursday morning"... "The report will go online and we'll make the report available to everybody. It's not something we're going to lock away in a file cabinet." Furthermore, she stated, Mass Audubon has the noise report because the Director of the MAS WBWS said they would release it the day of the scheduled and then postponed Cape Cod Commission meeting [fall of 2013] or the day of the scheduled and then postponed Wellfleet Zoning Board of Appeals Hearing [fall of 2013]. Gostin asked WEC to request that the Director of the WBWS forward the noise report to WEC. Elkin said that he and another engineer in Wellfleet, Dan Martin met with the Director of the WBWS late spring or early summer to discuss the impacts of noise including infrasound and low frequency noise (ILFN) and amplitude modulation. Elkin stated that there are complex factors regarding wind turbine noise and he explained to the Director of the WBWS that a noise study needs to take these factors into account. He also talked about how the MA state regulations are inadequate. Elkin stated that he and Martin wrote the Director of the WBWS long letters that call for new noise testing that measure ILFN and amplitude modulation. He stated there are flaws with averaging noise over time in that it does not show the true impacts of ILFN and amplitude modulation. Elkin said that the Director of the WBWS did not release the Epsilon noise report because he thinks the Director of the WBWS knows it is flawed and he needs to address the concerns of Elkin and Martin with a new report. Gostin stated as an engineer and from the materials he has reviewed about this particular wind turbine, the proposed wind turbine at WBWS will have ILFN and amplitude modulation problems. Green thanked Elkin for meeting with the Director of the WBWS to explain these issues.

Motion: Springer moved to adjourn the meeting. Green seconded. The motion carried 4-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Lilli-Ann Green, Committee Secretary

Handouts, minutes and correspondence:

- ¹ Draft Minutes of the 11-18-13 WEC
- ² Draft Minutes of the 12-16-13 WEC
- ³ Draft Minutes of the 1-27-14 WEC
- ⁴ MAS Email - MAS – E Bibler 2-19-14
- ⁵ MAS WEC Meeting 5-21-13 with Mass Audubon – excerpts from transcript
- ⁶ MAS Letter from S Ambrose - Gaia 11-kW Wind Turbine - 20Aug2013-rev1
- ⁷ CLC Email 2-5-14 Letter opposing CLC Aggregation Plan - LG and emails with DE
- ⁸ CLC Email 2-17-14 Correspondence CLC and CVEC – EB
- ⁹ CLC Email 2-23-14 Correspondence - EB
- ¹⁰ CLC Special-Committee-Report-on-CLC-CVEC-5-2-12
- ¹¹ CLC 12-4-13-Meeting-AoD- Resolution 13-06
- ¹² CLC 12-8-13 Assembly Speaker's Letter to AG & IG
- ¹³ CLC Aggregation-Plan-December-Revisions-Red-line-12-16-13