

Wellfleet Energy Committee (WEC)
Minutes of the Meeting of February 4, 2013
Council on Aging Building
7:00 p.m.

Present: Chair Marcus Springer, Richard Elkin, Lilli-Ann Green, Teresa Parker

Absent: Charles Cole

Excused absence: Edmund Doyle

Guests: Preston Ribnick

Chair Marcus Springer called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

A request to tape record the meeting by Lilli-Ann Green was made and the request was granted by the Chair Marcus Springer.

BUSINESS

Minutes of 10/15/12 meeting:

Motion, Richard Elkin moved to approve the draft minutes¹. Marcus Springer seconded, and the motion carried 4-0.

Future meeting schedule, next meeting– discussion of scheduling two solar vendors for this meeting:

Chair Marcus Springer said that he will write a letter to the Board of Selectmen asking if members of the WEC can Skype if they are out of town. Chair Marcus Springer will contact the two solar vendors who have expressed an interest in presenting to the WEC and invite them to attend the next meeting.

Update on the Planning Board Public Hearing for the Solar Photovoltaic Installation, Large-Scale Ground-Mounted (LSGMSPI) Zoning Bylaw: Chair Marcus Springer stated that the Planning Board (PB) has contacted him with a hearing date of February 20th for the proposed LSGMSPI Zoning Bylaw. Lilli-Ann Green submitted a memo to the WEC with concerns that have not been addressed by the PB² and a memo with concerns not answered by NStar³. She asked that a member of WEC follow up with the NStar concerns. She was told that NStar will not answer these questions until a proposal has been submitted. Teresa Parker stated that she has talked with concerned citizens who are neighbors of the town landfill area. A discussion was held as to what the steps may be if the LSGMSPI Zoning Bylaw is adopted at Town Meeting and the town decides to proceed with a LSGMSPI proposal at the town landfill area. Richard Elkin talked about an idea to create a working group that would include neighbors of the town landfill if the LSGMSPI article is approved at town meeting and if the town decides to move forward with plans to construct a LSGMSPI at the landfill area. It was suggested by guest Preston Ribnick that the WEC contact Mashpee since that town has decided to place solar panels on their landfill area in much the same manner as Wellfleet has talked about.

Update on Green Community Act Schedule: Lilli-Ann Green stated that she has followed up with the Green Communities Act (GCA) Department of Energy Resources (DOER) Solarize Mass. program and recent teleconference materials including a PowerPoint presentation with deadlines for application to this program. Solarize Mass. is a program for home owners and business owners. A discussion was held and it was decided that at this time Wellfleet could learn from the DOER program but WEC would like to continue its research with local solar vendors and benefits to Wellfleet home owners and businesses, etc. Teresa Parker pointed out that one of the solar vendors who has already presented to WEC has offered to partner with entities in Wellfleet to educate the public. Richard Elkin pointed out that Wellfleet may be able to offer home owners and business

more options than the DOER program and discussed these options. Lilli-Ann Green pointed out that handouts for consumers with comparisons of different solar options and other educational materials perhaps even developed by WEC as well as compiling materials from different solar vendors may be helpful for home owners and business owners in Wellfleet. Chair Marcus Springer talked about the different solar panels that are available and financing options. Richard Elkin offered to follow up with the Cape Light Compact (CLC) to see if CLC has any educational materials or programs that can support WEC efforts to learn more about solar options that may benefit Wellfleet home owners and business owners.

Stretch Code Article: Chair Marcus Springer stated that he has contacted officials in Truro and Provincetown regarding stretch code warrant articles the towns have written. A discussion was held regarding the stretch code and an appropriate warrant article or petitioned article for Wellfleet.

Update on Green Community Act Communication with DOER: Answers to a letter emailed to DOER on January 7, 2013 was expected, however a response has not been received.

Pilgrim plant petitioned article: A discussion was held regarding the petitioned article for Wellfleet. Several members of WEC have signed the petitioned article.

Update to letter to BOS regarding the Cape Light Compact and the Cape and Vineyard Electric Cooperative (CLC/CVEC) issues: Lilli-Ann Green submitted a list of questions that she was asked to compile as Secretary of WEC⁴. On September 17, 2012 three staff members of CLC attended a WEC meeting and gave a presentation regarding CLC. Ms. Maggie Downey stated that they would only answer questions regarding the CLC Energy Efficiency Fund that evening. Chair Marcus Springer asked for people to contact the WEC secretary or him if there were unanswered questions. Ms. Downey said that she would answer questions from the Wellfleet Board of Selectmen. A discussion about the questions was held. Chair Marcus Springer asked Secretary Lilli-Ann Green to write specific questions for the Wellfleet Board of Selectmen based upon the discussion held that WEC members can review.

Motion: Lilli-Ann Green moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 p.m. Chair Marcus Springer seconded, and the motion carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Lilli-Ann Green, Committee Secretary

¹ Draft Minutes of the 10-15-12 WEC meeting

² Memo regarding PV bylaw

³ Memo regarding questions for NStar

⁴ List of questions for CLC