

## FEBRUARY GREEN ENERGY TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE MEETING

February 11, 2015

Attending: John Snell, Peter Watkinson, Jim Hutchinson, David O'Neil, Bill Stason, Mary Day, and Linda Conrad. Michael Haines attended the first part of the meeting.

**January Minutes** were unanimously approved for posting.

**DOER GREEN COMMUNITIES** A unanimous motion passed to propose the following measures and explore their feasibility for funding under the new grant: Interior lighting for the auditorium, switching 72 fixtures from incandescent to LED; more CTs to monitor town energy usage; a comprehensive energy study and full assessment of the Library with a goal of installing new energy efficient systems; new boiler and chimney caps for Pierce House; more controls for Smith and Hartwell; and solar-thermal air collectors for the face of the Field House. Also discussed was hot water for the Public Safety Building. The cost and savings of each measure must be demonstrated in the proposal. Final budgets and measures will be discussed and approved at the March meeting in time for the March 20 grant application deadline.

**Solar PV** O'Neil discussed the strategies to employ at the planning meeting with the Conservation Commission on February 18<sup>th</sup> when the Transfer Station as a possible site for a solar field will be discussed. Unlike any other landfill site in the state, the Lincoln site was put into conservation years ago and that commission has stewardship of the site. Many other such sites around the state already have solar fields which are considered to be a good use of this kind of previously disturbed land area. As this is the most suitable site in Lincoln, Blue Wave will make a presentation to the gathering about the potential of the site and the benefits to the town. GETC is aware of the 30% federal investment tax credit due to expire in 2016; the Massachusetts credit has a longer horizon.

**Mass Energy** Watkinson reported that if the town is willing to spend an additional 2.4 cents a kilowatt hour, Lincoln could operate completely on renewable energy. Mass Energy has two plans from which to choose: 1) 100% wind and 2) A combination of wind/solar/hydro. An effort is underway to get Mass Audubon to utilize the program. Switching to all renewable energy and the cost of doing so would require a warrant article and it is too late to do this for the March Town Meeting. This matter will be discussed further next month to determine if it should be proposed for next year's town meeting.

**Next Meeting** The next meeting will be held on March 12<sup>th</sup> at 8 a.m. in the Donaldson Room of the Town Offices Building. The agenda will include finalizing projects and budgets for the Green Communities Grant and a discussion of renewable energy for Lincoln.