

## GEC Minutes - January 11, 2018

Present: David, Jennifer, Sue, John, Jonathan, C. J.

John reviewed the proposed agenda for the meeting.

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### GEC Forum Planning

The GEC should have a public forum before the Town Meeting on March 24. It will need to be announced in the Selectmen's Newsletter or other channels, including postcards. Sue suggests that any announcement be explicit on the topics that will be covered. John proposes dates (in preference order) - Wed March 14, Sun March 11, Tues March 6 / Thurs March 8. C.J. and John agree to organize the forum.

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### Lincoln-Sudbury Student bottle / plastic bag proposal

Students understand that they need to understand the process and have it completed. Some nearby towns have exemptions based on size of establishment, but in Lincoln it will need to cover all businesses.

John mentions Donelan's and Trail's End are likely to be affected and have commented on past proposals. Jennifer adds that bags are less controversial because of broader statewide action. Bottles are a concern because people are more likely to go elsewhere. Sue mentions that Sudbury has a proposal to repeal their ban.

John asks if this should be a committee priority, and Jonathan asks if we can we take a non-position, commending the students' initiative but not commenting on the merits? Jennifer and Sue respond that we will be asked to take a position on this issue.

John suggests deciding at the Committee's March 1 meeting and coming up with questions for the students.

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### National Grid Grant (Sue)

We will have a \$7,000 grant from National Grid and will want to think about how it could be used. John mentions that it's likely that it will go directly into general funds, but we will likely be able to suggest how it will be used. Sue asks for ideas.

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### Aggregation (CJ)

We should have a Warrant Article, and we have samples from vendors, who think success is likely. Will need education and outreach. We are working with Colonial, GoodEnergy, and Peregrine to work out details of warrant. Two year process after warrant approval, need to select vendor, renewable percentages, opt-out process.

Jennifer adds that we will be asked about the demands on town staff to implement. Hopefully will have good guidelines.

John asks if we should we be aggressive on the Renewable aspect and emphasize greenhouse gas reduction targets. CJ responds that there are some options for multiple tiers, but would prefer to make renewables part of the argument. Jennifer suggests that renewals will be a selling point, if not we can back them out. The GEC should present, hopefully after Selects have voted to support. We should get on the agenda at the Selectmen's meeting on February 26th.

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Sustainability Targets (John)

GEC asked Selects about sustainability targets, and selects have asked GEC to look into it. Concord has a \$100k master plan and director. Do we want to support state mandates? Should we push back to next year? Getting the town to approve a target provides more weight - meeting targets will require a lot of work by residents and others.

CJ likes the idea of having a target and think it's important people know the costs and benefits, and David asks what the implications are for costs. John responds that Aggregation helps with electricity but fossil fuels are still cheap, \$20-\$40k investment per household to transition from fossil fuels. EVs have costs too.

Sue suggests that we should focus on the town meeting first and then study what other towns are doing. John mentions that in Concord, Mothers Up Front brought the issue up at town meeting and the town voted for it, now they are seeing some costs increase.

June 9th town meeting is a possible target.

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PV (John)

The project is moving ahead slowly but not ready for town meeting. While not mandatory, the committee should communicate with the town as updates happen.

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Vehicles (John)

The capital committee isn't considering changes for 2018 and grants expire EOY 2018. Some interesting vehicles and grants - hybrid police cars? Need to target July / August in 2018.

Jennifer asks if Doherty's school buses are a potential target. John responds that the buses need to be able to support full day operations. Hybrids might be a possibility.

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#### Library Heating Replacement (Sue)

The library has ruled out regular air-source heat pump, and it will cost \$4,500 to investigate a ground-source heat pump. The project architects didn't like the visual impact of the interior units.

It's possible that we could use grant funds to support investigating other options. The library is the current project that would have the most impact.

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#### Miscellaneous

Sue - National Grid grant will have awards ceremony in March. Next Tuesday PM, Historic Commission will be looking at a solar installation, could set a precedent. David mentions Codman Barn solar was discussed but not formally proposed, and that the commission suggested that it would not be approved.

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Motion to Adjourn accepted.