

Green Energy Committee
Minutes
Thursday, September 6, 2018

Members Present: John Snell, Sue Klem, Jim Hutchinson, C.J. Valpone, Jonathan Soo, Ann Risso, Peter Watkinson, Ed Lang

Assistant Town Administrator: Mary Day

Selectman: Jennifer Glass

Members of Mothers Out Front Present: Emily Haslett

Others present: Ruth Ann Hendrickson, Belinda Gingrich

AGENDA ITEMS DISCUSSED:

Approve Net Zero article for public dissemination: Ruth Anne Hendrickson, John Snell

- GEC needs to speak with a single voice when it gives opinions.
- GEC can not address issues raised on Lincoln Talks in real time as one voice. [I still am struggling with this bullet although it is what we said. I feel like we are unnecessarily tying our hands. There must be all sorts of information that GEC can provide in real time (not opinions but more than just terms and technical topics) that we would all agree on. Lincoln Talk moves fast and can get “out of control” quickly with misinformation and opinion. GEC and all town boards need some way of using this media in a positive way.
- GEC can address technical topics interpreted into layman’s terms and define terminology.
- GEC can have a subcommittee to write up the responses and statements but it must be approved by the committee as a whole.

- **MOTION: motion was made by Ed Lang to approve the Net Zero Article written by Ruth Ann Hendrickson with edits and propagate it to the town.**

- **FRIENDLY AMENDMENT: Friendly amendment was added by Jim Hutchinson to make the Zero Energy Article as a FAQ reference for the GEC to publish as questions arise.**

- It was suggested that the FAQ reference be extended to all issues that we want to comment on that will be approved by the GEC committee for public dissemination.
- Concern was raised about this making it more difficult to post answers to questions on Lincoln Talks since the Open Meeting Laws would dictate that the statements are planned and discussed and voted on by the committee.

- The vote was passed.

School Building Project: Ed Lang

- **MOTION: motion was made by Ed Lang to authorize GEC to pursue on the Town’s behalf all incentive and rebate money available and to authorize SMMA to provide all information to GEC that is needed to pursue this money.**

- There are many factors influencing the incentives including when equipment will be installed, if monitoring will be set up, the heat load.
- We can look for grant money and incentives to help lower the costs of the School Building Project.
- It goes both ways with incentives, we need to know what the project needs to find incentives and we need to know what incentives are available because that can dictate what we choose to add to the building to keep the price down.
- We should identify sources of funding which can influence which options are used.
- Motion was passed.

Review Solar PV at school: Peter Watkinson, Ed Lang, Jim Hutchinson, Jennifer Glass

- At the June 9th SBC meeting the cost estimate was \$2.50/sq ft. This would be \$3.7 million for the entire budget. This didn't include overhead so the price tag is between \$4.5 and \$5 M.
- We would only be able to fund half of the project proposed June 9th .
 - Do we stay in budget
 - Do we do a PPAS for half?
 - Do we do solar separately so the design manager isn't taking a fee out of the budget?
- There needs to be a multi board to decide this in a public process
- [I'd delete this bullet since Jennifer said that the school doesn't have to worry about large solar arrays not complying with our solar bylaw since they can use the Dover Amendment]
- The RLF/LLCT was surprised when pursuing PV at Mall when the Planning board alerted them that the parking canopy must be in an overlay district.
- GEC public position is to put as much PV on site even where oak trees produce more shade to get net zero design.
- If the solar is put on in a separate project it will require coordination to make the building solar ready (roof can support the weight, the junction box placements, and water/air tight penetrations) and the larger building project won't be covering it with its insurance umbrella.

Capital Planning: Mary Day

- Capital Requests for town trucks, air conditioning, etc., are submitted September 21st . Mary will provide a summary so the GEC can make suggestions for alternative greener options equipment.

Electricity Aggregation: C.J. Valpone

- There was an August kick off meeting with the selects.
- The name will be Lincoln Green Energy Choice.
- The website will be LincolnEnergyChoice.com
- The DOER (Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources) reviewed the plan, the opt-out letter, the program guidelines, the things we are likely to try, plan to gauge of town's reaction.
- At the end of September it will be presented to the board of selectmen.
- There will be a public outreach for 1 month
- DPU (Department of Public Utilities) review, which is more stringent, will take up to 6 months.
- We need a program design before the DPU review but after the public comment period

- This will be happening at the same time as the school building process is proceeding but the Aggregation program does not need to be voted on.
- After the design of the program it goes out to bid.
- Program may be active summer 2019.

HeatSmart: John Snell

- HeatSmart ended August 31st. There were a total of 64 contracts, 12 in the final week. There were 6 ASHP (air sourced heat pumps) and 6 GSHP (ground sourced heat pumps) contracted in Lincoln. This does not represent all the systems contracted since some people used our companies as a starting point for their search but finished with a different installer or were inspired by HeatSmart's educational push but haven't made a choice yet.

Energy Challenge: Sue Klem

- Homeworks hasis working on reactivating the LincolnEnergyChallenge.org website.
- Carolyn Bottum at the COA has invited the GEC to do a series of presentations or have a Q & A about residential green technologies that can be implemented to reduce fossil fuel use in Lincoln.
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- On Mid October 14 First Parish will kick off its Mass Wind Initiative with guest preacher, Rev. Margaret Bullit-Jonas as speaker. [FPL has spoken about getting Bill McKibben, but I am not sure of the date.]
- have Bill McKibben as a presenter.

Submitted by Belinda Gingrich