

Meeting Minutes
Green Energy Committee
8am on Thursday, May 13, 2021

**Virtual Meeting Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020
Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law**

Members present: Jim Hutchinson, Paul Shorb (Chair), Ed Lang, Ed Kern, Sue Klem, Roy Harvey
Guest/Liaison Attendees: Jennifer Glass (BOS), Belinda Gingrich

1. Quorum check

Paul reported that Ann Risso and Jonathan Soo have resigned from the Committee, leaving us with seven members: Roy Harvey, Jim Hutchinson, Ed Kern, Sue Klem, Ed Lang, Paul Shorb (Chair), and C.J. Volpone, and thus a quorum for our meetings is 4 members.

Jennifer suggested if GEC wants more members, we should send a notice to Peggy for posting on Lincoln Talk and Lincoln Squirrel. It should describe what GEC does, and invite folks to come to meetings and see what we do. Sue agreed that not everyone reads Lincoln Talk and agreed we should also include the Squirrel.

2. Review and approve minutes

- **March 11, 2021**

Some fixes from Sue were reviewed. Paul then moved to approve the amended March 11, 2021 minutes, Jim seconded, and the motion was approved by voice call vote, with Jim abstaining since he wasn't at the March 11 meeting.

- **April 8, 2021**

No edits were requested, so Paul moved to approve the minutes from April 8, 2021 as presented, Ed Kern seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously by voice call vote.

3. Subcommittee memberships and contact list

Next Paul started a discussion of which subcommittees and other subgroups are active in GEC and who is participating in each one. A draft spreadsheet detailing this information was begun.

The question was raised about how many GEC members could participate in a group before it needed to operate as a subcommittee following Open Meeting Law versus a working group that was less formal. The consensus was that 4 members participating would need to post agendas and minutes since that would be a quorum of the full GEC. Jennifer agreed, and requested that the spreadsheet be clear on who is a GEC member vs. other roles, but she also pointed out that sometimes it is good to have minutes and post meetings to better communicate what is happening to the public, e.g., how the Communications Subcommittee of SBC operates. Also,

sometimes extra members show up to a subcommittee meeting and make an unexpected quorum.

Next Paul ran down list of subcommittees / working groups and cleaned up who is participating on each of them and asked one person from each subcommittee to come up with sentence or two to describe what subcommittee does and send it to Paul.

- Sue volunteered to do that for the communications, residential, and NZ planning groups. Regarding the NZ planning group, Jennifer noted that the Selects have stated a preference for this to be done as a subcommittee of the GEC rather than starting a new committee.
- Ed Kern volunteered to do that for the “Data” group, although he requested a name change for the group to something like “emissions tracking”. Jim asked to join that group.
- Ed Lang offered to write the description for the IECC group and the NZ school group.
- Ed Kern offered to write the description for the EV projects group.
- Jim offered to write the description for the NZ PPA group.
- Roy offered to write the description for the transportation group.

Next there was discussion about whether we need a group that works on municipal electricity usage and getting to net zero for municipal usage, perhaps called “Town Electricity”.

Paul noted that we needed more participation on the “Grants” group. Jennifer mentioned that she attends MAPC meetings and tries to pay attention and flag things for us, and she is happy to be ex-officio member of the group. It was noted that many towns have part-time staff member to pursue funding. Jim mentioned that Mary Day used to help John Snell fill out the grant applications and be the staff person who is the contact person for the Town. Jennifer warned that there is always a capacity issue for those staff members, but Dan Pereira or Paula Vaughn could possibly be enlisted for help here. Roy has volunteered to participate but he is not sure about leading the group. Jim thought Audrey Kalmus might be interested in participating and he volunteered to follow up with her.

4. Ongoing and potential projects

- [Lincoln Green Energy Choice program rollout & Opt Up campaign](#)

Ed Kern showed a report of the latest Opt Up numbers and mentioned our hope to get 100 households at 100% green by Town Meeting was going to be a stretch.

Paul reported that tabling outside of Donelan's (by Chatfield, Falendar, Gingrich, Klem, Shorb, Smith, and Walker) seemed reasonably effective.

Jennifer suggested sending out a brochure to realtors, to try and reach new homeowners. Sue volunteered to contact realtors, and said they prefer to get an online link instead of printed brochure.

Paul noted that Trisha O'Hagan had provided the "Opt Up" palm cards to be included in the packets that will be handed out to participants at Town Meeting.

Paul discussed the brochure and said he had been worried the language made it seem like program hasn't started yet, but Peregrine convinced him it was useful for new people in town for whom program is new, so he is ok to leave verb tense as is. He also noted that we can do progress-report kind of documents for the program, and do not need to put this information in the brochure. So we will finalize and print the brochure.

Sue is worried about people who opted out of program and those who are sticking with their third party suppliers. She asked if we should put something in Lincoln Talk asking people to double check that they got what they wanted. She said she will send around a draft before sending anything out.

Paul opined that the biggest challenge/opportunity is inertia, and people who haven't made a choice yet. He suggested that an effective way to further boost our opt-ups would be to contact our friends and neighbors by email or otherwise. However, there seemed to be a shared hesitation about doing that, and some interest in seeing a draft email or other model for how to do that in a way that feels socially comfortable.

- [Net zero planning subcommittee](#)

This item was passed over due to being out of time.

5. Other Business

No other business was discussed due to being out of time.

Next meeting was set for June 10.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:38am.