

Buckland Energy Committee

Meeting Minutes: 21 August 2019, 7:00 p.m., Buckland Public Library

Present: Committee Members: Ellen Kaufmann, Michael Novack, Penny Novack, Margaret Olin, Harvey Schaktman, Brian Summer

Facilitator: Brian Summer

Scribe: Margaret Olin

1. *Open the meeting.*
2. *Review and approve minutes from 17 July 2019 and 29 July 2019 meetings.*
 - Both approved unanimously as written.
3. *Discussion of solarize programs – past, present, & future – including state/federal incentives for residents, businesses, and municipalities, community solar initiatives; META Grant application for Community Shared Solar feasibility study (submitted 01 August 2019)*
 - Reporting on process of submitting META Grant application for Community Shared Solar: application complete, now waiting to hear about approval/denial
4. *Discussion of local and regional energy-related issues, including:*
 - MCAP
 - Rail transport of fossil and other fuels; concerns about derailments, remaining railroad ties and debris along tracks
 - State-proposed energy legislation, including proposed “woodlands partnership”; response to Northern Pass
 - Alternative electric power suppliers; regional municipal electricity aggregation plan updates
 - MassSave program updates
 - New Massachusetts programs: (through Mass CEC and DOER; Center for EcoTechnology --CET)
 - Municipal lighting/streetlights
 - Recycle-able/biodegradable plastic bags; single-use plastics
 - ° No update on MCAP
 - ° Rail: concern about possible rail transport of spent nuclear plant fuel
 - ° Municipal aggregation: 05 August email from Colonial Power mentioning completion of filing in December, anticipating DPU Order as soon as end of August
 - ° Lighting & Articles: Keep tabs on UMass intern program through Clean Energy Extension – possible help with lighting project
<https://ag.umass.edu/clean-energy>
 - ° Noted that Shelburne now has 2 public EV charging stations, total of 4 in near future: get more information about possible grant & funding opportunities for stations in Buckland

5. Update on past Green Communities Grant applications; planning for 2020

- continue discussion on potential projects to include in future applications, especially those that will bring us closer to the 20% reduction in energy use marker
- DOER updates?

◦ 2019- round of GC grants have yet to be awarded: selection process running more slowly this year; decision projected to happen by the end of this month.

6. Continue discussion of future public events, including:

- Future winserts workshop? Public forum on energy issues?
 - Summer/Fall 2019 film series and/or discussion groups;
 - budget for events
- No winserts workshop this year
- Discussion of screening of Burned around public discussion on Woodlands Partnership; reminder: Check <https://www.linktv.org/shows/burned-are-trees-the-new-coal> (30-minute excerpts from Burned, free availability extended through October)

7. Update on MVP Grant current and future

- 12 August Hazard Mitigation Meeting: Margaret attended; review of first draft of hazard section; Next meeting 9 October, 9:00 a.m.

8. Report back about other meetings/ activities in which committee members participate.

- None

9. Other items not reasonably anticipated

- Discussion of newly forming Open Space Committee

10. Choose facilitator and scribe for next meeting.

- Next regular meeting Wednesday, 18 September 2019, 7:00 at Buckland Town Hall

11. Adjourn meeting