

Buckland Energy Committee

Meeting Minutes: 19 September 2019, 7:15 p.m., Buckland Public Library

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

Facilitator: Harvey Schaktman

Scribe: Margaret Olin

1. *Open the meeting.*
2. *Review and approve minutes from 21 August 2019 meeting.*
 - 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)*
 - No word yet on submitted META Grant application for Community Shared Solar; Brian and Margaret attended Planning Board meeting tonight to discuss META grant background and possibilities
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 updates
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?
 - Buckland awarded \$41,973 in 2019 round of Green Communities Grant applications: “to fund energy conservation measures, LED streetlight conversion, in municipal facilities including municipally owned streetlights”
 - Support contacting Jim Lowenthal to give public talk on conversations
 - Harvey will contact other granted communities to get information on how they dealt with street light replacement.

- ° Keep in touch with Heather about street light project; encourage there being an avenue for public input

6. Continue discussion of future public events, including:

- Future winserts workshop? Public forum on energy issues?
- Fall 2019 film series and/or discussion groups;
- budget for events
- ° See flier on Northfield Family Energy Day 14 September: Paul Mark, Jo Comerford – about 30 residents attended; Northfield EC did a PowerPoint presentation their Green Communities programs; outreach statement
- ° 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

- No September meeting; next meeting 9:00 a.m. on October 9, 2019

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

- Noted events in support of Climate Action Week: School Strike Friday 20 September -- local participation opportunities in Boston (bus from BigY), Greenfield Common (a Center School-organized action), Mohawk Trail (at school bus yard)

9. Other items not reasonably anticipated

- Get in touch with Bob Dean to see if regional energy committees might start meeting again
- Look into appliance energy use when in stand-by mode; ghost loads
- Consider regular paper article or blog page for information about energy issues, events, possible public events sponsored by BEC

10. Choose facilitator and scribe for next meeting.

- Next regular meeting: Thursday, 10 October 2019, 7:15 at Buckland Public Library (or Town Hall, if BPL unavailable)

11. Adjourn meeting