

Buckland Energy Committee

Meeting Minutes: 10 October 2019, 7:15 p.m., Buckland Public Library

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

Facilitator: Brian Summer

Scribe: Margaret Olin

1. *Open the meeting.*
2. *Review and approve minutes from 19 September 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)*
 - Still no word on submitted META Grant application for Community Shared Solar
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
 - Brian and Margaret attended the 09 October MVP report meeting at Buckland Town Hall: issues also raised around rail crossings/ties
 - Reminder that a brief version of “Burned” will be available through October
 - Questions about recent email to residents from Relay Power about energy program with Greenfield YMCA
 - Reminder about various MA DOER energy efficiency appliance rebates available through December
 - Plans to: connect with Jim Barry’s replacement at DOER; connect with Heather for streetlight update; find out status of implementation of Buckland’s single-use plastics ban
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?*

- No possibility of applying for GCG 2020 because we won't have completed work with our 2019 grant award by then (in part because of the state delay in making the awards).

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*

- Reminder about Bulky Waste Collection Day (19 October)

- 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; Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

- (see #4 above: Brian and Margaret attended 09 October Meeting)
- Went over statistics from plan draft: along with hazard assessments, noted demographics and housing stock

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

- None

9. Other items not reasonably anticipated

- None

10. Choose facilitator and scribe for next meeting.

- Next regular meeting: Thursday, 21 November 2019, 7:15 at Buckland Town Hall

11. Adjourn meeting