

Buckland Energy Committee

Meeting Minutes: 15 May 2019, 7:00 p.m., Buckland Town Hall

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

Facilitator: Michael Novack

Scribe: Margaret Olin

1. *Open the meeting.*
2. *Review and approve minutes from 17 April 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*
 - Relay Power (with an address in Hudson, MA) has contacted Buckland resident trying to sell “community solar”. <https://relaypower.com>; discussion of community solar: municipal (e.g. Wendell) vs. corporate
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, Penny, Michael: noting old & new ties visible from River Rd (Charlemont & Buckland) and Rt.2 in Charlemont
 - Noted BOH discussion on biomass
 - Discussion on biochar/terra prata (Brazil); basalt & carbon fixation (Iceland)
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?
 - Discussed email from Jim Barry (DOER Green Communities) re: Massachusetts “Green Communities” achieving 20% reduction in energy use
6. *Continue discussion of future public events, including:*
 - Future winsets workshop? Public forum on energy issues?
 - Summer/Fall 2019 film series and/or discussion groups;
 - budget for events
 - Budget for next year \$200.

- ° Films: look into possible re-screening of Burned (last screening June 2018 - sponsored by another community group, tour funding by Patagonia); by June meeting, look into possible screenings of public domain shorts on energy topics

7. Update on MVP Grant current and future

- No updates

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 Wednesday, 19 June 2019, 7:00 at Buckland Public Library

11. Adjourn meeting