

Town of Harvard Energy Advisory Committee

BRIAN SMITH – CHAIR
DAVID FAY
PAUL GREEN
FORREST HODGKINS
ELLEN SACHS-LEICHER

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS:
STUDENT MEMBER:
LIAISONS:

PETER KELLY-JOSEPH
OPEN
KARA MINAR, SELECT BOARD
SUSANMARY REDINGER, SCHOOL COMMITTEE
SUSANMARY REDINGER, CAPITAL PLANNING
TBD, FINANCE COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes 5/12/21

Attendees: B. Smith, P. Green, E. Sachs-Leicher, Peter Kelly-Joseph
Chris Roy (PT)

Location: **This Meeting was held virtually in accordance with the Governor's Executive Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L.c.30A. S.20.;**
Zoom Meeting ID: 838 7558 1077

	Meeting Discussion/Status
Admin	1. The minutes of 4/28/21 were approved 3-0 without comment.
Guest	1. Chris Roy – now director at Shrewsbury Municipal Light plant (MLP) discussed the following industry topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Strategic Electrification – focus on transportation and increasing the capacity of the grid. b. Focus on shovel ready projects such as battery storage and charging station projects to take advantage of grants when they are announced. c. Harvard's effort to establish an energy policy is an important initiative to determine the overall vision and support from the residents. d. The adoption of smart meters has been slow for the large utilities; more common for the MLPs.
Schools	2. HES Solar 260 kW DC Behind the Meter project – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Interconnect Application – Pending approval by NGRID, likely in May. b. Lease Agreement – Lease Article for approval at Town Meeting 5/15. Select Energy provided revised PPA, Lease and PILOT documents due to the favorable revised PPA rates for review by the Town. 3. Anti-Idling Campaign – The Green team has installed 4 signs at Bromfield.
Town Energy Project Updates	1. Green Community Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. GC2021 Spring Competitive grant application submitted on time April 8 for just under the max \$200k.– projects recommended by Energy Conservation Inc. – no award yet. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Bromfield Transformers – high efficiency/re-sizing – Proposed. ii. Library Weatherization - insulation opportunities are limited to Library attic spaces. Phase 1 for the roof deck was proposed. iii. Bromfield Weatherization – mainly air sealing, door sweeps. – Included in the proposed application. iv. SiteSage software license extension (~\$5k for 3 years) – Proposed. v. TBS Court Lighting – replace with LED for energy and maintenance savings. Proposed. b. MassEnergize – this is a software tool for the Town to offer residents for greenhouse gas tracking. The cost is \$750 to join and \$450/year. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Ellen is planning to work with the Green team to help promote. ii. The Climate Working Group will implement this software and communicate/launch to the community. iii. Ellen obtain invoice from MassEnergize for total and Brian submit to Tim Bragan for approval. 2. Library Energy Use Review –Forrest explained he is working with Pete Jackson to evaluate BMS data for the Air Handling Unit. – no update
	4. Charging Station – HEAC is working with ECI to evaluate charging stations at

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	<p>five locations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> HES –There is a concern with having to expand a space to include a handicapped accessible spot. Library – Brian has discussed with the Library Trustees; evaluating if the Bromfield Trustees need to approve. Also evaluating whether modifying any spots affects the basis for the Library site requirements. Bromfield – The spots recommended are in the back by the courts which are closer to the electric panels for connecting the charger conductors. Some prefer to have it be in front and be more visible. Town Hall – limited spots but supported by Town. General Store – needs separate meter; issue with obstruction and limited space. <p>The MA state EVIP program should provide 100% of the funds required for the equipment and installation. Brian to review project with Peter to determine next steps.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Streetlights – Conversion to LED. There are 44 streetlights eligible to be replaced saving up to \$1600 a year and a one-time \$3400 bonus. There are 4000K fixtures available now and 3000K in the future; the SB indicated a desire for the warmer 3000K lights. Discussion points are the light color/brightness level, exempting antique fixtures, or exempting specific locations. NGRID will send a list of the locations - received. HEAC to prepare a proposal by fixture. – Current thought is to wait for the 3000K lights. NGRID does not have LED replacements for the antique lights. There will be a review of all locations. – no update Solar strategy – Kara expressed interest in reviving the effort to have a global review (formal assessment) of solar opportunities in Town. An example presented was the Town gravel pit that could be used for ground mount solar. DLTA grants may be available to review the feasibility. The solar overlay district could be expanded to include additional locations. Brian to evaluate plan with Kara. – <ol style="list-style-type: none"> HEAC to appoint rep to the new Revenue Ideation Committee, include photovoltaic system proposals. Chris identified an interesting solar “Smart Flower” product to consider.
Subcommittees/ Initiatives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Community Resiliency Working group CRWG <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Consultant KLA issued a framework for a Climate Action Plan Ellen reported that there is a need for a volunteer to be a resource for the Heatsmart program. Energy Policy Subcommittee (Chair Paul Green)– Article supporting the MA greenhouse gas reduction goals (currently net zero by 2050) – Scheduled for Fall Town meeting.
Membership	No update.
	Meeting adjourned 9:15 pm (voted 3-0)
Future Meetings	2021: Jun 16, Jul 14, Aug 11 HEAC Meeting Location/Time: 8 pm. – Virtual until further notice