

# 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 6/16/21

Attendees: B. Smith, D. Fay, P. Green, F. Hodgkins, E. Sachs-Leicher  
SusanMary Redinger, Kara Minar

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: 820 7244 4657**

	Meeting Discussion/Status
Admin	1. The minutes of 5/12/21 were approved 5-0 without comment.
Schools	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HES Solar 260 kW DC Behind the Meter project – <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interconnect Application – <b>NGRID approved 5/24/21.</b></li> <li>Lease Agreement – Lease Article <b>approved</b> at Town Meeting 5/15. <b>The Town reviewed and commented on the revised PPA, Lease and PILOT documents on 6/2. Select to return by 6/18 and schedule a conference call to resolve any issues.</b></li> <li><b>The goal is to start construction in the summer.</b></li> </ol> </li> <li><b>Solar Storage – Select provided an explanation for not including storage at this time for the HES project.</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>For a new building, the demand charge history is not known and therefore the savings are not defined.</b></li> <li><b>The storage company competition is limited in the &lt;250kW AC market.</b></li> <li><b>For the NGRID interconnect application, battery storage increases the system rating and would have been viewed unfavorably in the impact on the system.</b></li> <li><b>Select recommends that storage be added in the future. This would also improve Harvard's resiliency for power outages.</b></li> </ol> </li> </ol>
Town Energy Project Updates	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Green Community Program <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bromfield Transformers – high efficiency/re-sizing – Proposed.</li> <li>Library Weatherization - insulation opportunities are limited to Library attic spaces. Phase 1 for the roof deck was proposed.</li> <li>Bromfield Weatherization – mainly air sealing, door sweeps. – Included in the proposed application.</li> <li>SiteSage software license extension (~\$5k for 3 years) – Proposed.</li> <li>TBS Court Lighting – replace with LED for energy and maintenance savings. Proposed. <b>Note that the work has been completed. The project may be eligible for reimbursement with approval by DOER.</b></li> </ol> </li> <li>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. <b>The payment was approved by Town Administration and the invoice paid. Training is scheduled for the beginning of July.</b></li> </ol> </li> <li>Charging Station – HEAC is working with ECI to evaluate charging stations at five locations: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HES –There is a concern with having to expand a space to include a</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

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	<p>handicapped accessible spot.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b. 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. – <b>the Trustees continue to evaluate the details of how a charging station would be implemented and where it would be located.</b></li> <li>c. 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.</li> <li>d. Town Hall – limited spots but supported by Town.</li> <li>e. General Store – needs separate meter; issue with obstruction and limited space.</li> <li>f. <b>Other areas – Harvard Park (track); commercial district?</b></li> </ul> <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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. <b>HeatSmart Alliance – Ellen requested the endorsement of HEAC for the climate event being held 6/17/21 regarding the HeatSmart program. HEAC voted 5-0 to endorse this program.</b></li> <li>5. <b>MRPC Regional Planning Assistance – Green Communities are eligible to have services that MRPC will apply for MA state DOER grants. The Green Community application and annual report service by MRPC is recommended to continue. In addition, Harvard can also have support for net-zero planning services including:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <b>Developing a net-zero emissions plan for municipal buildings and operations,</b></li> <li>b. <b>Preparing a community greenhouse gas inventory</b></li> <li>c. <b>Preparation toward developing a community-wide net-zero plan</b></li> </ul> <b>HEAC will request MRPC to request funding to support Harvard efforts for item a and c above. A greenhouse gas inventory has been created as part of the resiliency grant effort last year.</b> </li> <li>6. Long term grant opportunity – Kara identified that there are ARPA funds available to towns through 2024 to be expended by 2026. Projects are intended to be in support of a long-term strategic plan including climate related projects.</li> </ul>
Subcommittees/ Initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Energy Policy Subcommittee (Chair Paul Green)– Article supporting the MA greenhouse gas reduction goals (currently net zero by 2050) – Scheduled for Fall Town meeting. – <b>Need a combined effort with the Climate working group to prepare for Town meeting.</b></li> </ul>
Membership	No update.
	<b>Meeting adjourned 9:15 pm (voted 5-0)</b>
Future Meetings	<p>2021: Jul 14, Aug 11, Sep 8 HEAC Meeting Location/Time: 8 pm. – Virtual until further notice</p>