

# Town of Harvard Energy Advisory Committee

BRIAN SMITH – CHAIR  
DAVID FAY  
FORREST HODGKINS  
PETER KELLY-JOSEPH  
ELLEN SACHS-LEICHER

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS:  
STUDENT MEMBER:  
LIAISONS:

PAUL GREEN  
OPEN  
KARA MINAR, SELECT BOARD  
SUSANMARY REDINGER, SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
SUSANMARY REDINGER, CAPITAL PLANNING  
CHARLES OLIVER, FINANCE COMMITTEE

## Meeting Minutes 3/23/22

Attendees: B. Smith, D. Fay, F. Hodgkins, P. Kelly-Joseph, E. Sachs-Leicher  
Charles Oliver, SusanMary Redinger, Steve Clairmont (Solect(PT))

Location: **This Meeting was held virtually in accordance with Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, An Act Relative to Extending Certain COVID-19 Measures Adopted During the State of Emergency and signed into law on June 16, 2021**  
**Zoom Meeting ID: 880 1743 3131**

	Meeting Discussion/Status
Admin	1. HEAC approved the minutes of 3/3/22 5-0 without comment.
Schools	1. HES Solar 260 kW DC Behind the Meter project – a. A celebration was held on March 8. Ellen and David spoke; attendees included Dan Sena, Jamie Eldridge, Steve Clairmont (Solect), Linda Dwight and Josh Myler. The event was covered by the Harvard Press.
Energy Initiatives	1. Net Zero Emissions Plan (Decarbonization) – Funded by DOER/MRPC and performed by John Snell. Municipal Buildings/Operations – This is a roadmap for the Town to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050. a. The latest draft (3/21) of the Decarbonization plan was provided for information and comment. b. Review with Town stakeholders – to be scheduled. c. Community-wide plan – Further discussion is needed to define where to focus John Snell's efforts in conjunction with the Climate Initiative. 2. Climate Plan – Each area (e.g., Buildings, Energy, Transportation) will require one goal and two actions. The municipal and residential goals are being reviewed by stakeholder committees. HCIC presented the goals to the School Committee on 3/21. An action will be added about reducing and recycling waste. The next step is to review with the Select Board (tentative 4/19). This will support issue of the complete climate plan by June 2022.
Town Energy Project Updates	1. Green Community Program a. GC2021 Spring Competitive grant approved award received for the projects below managed through Energy Conservation Inc. i. Library Weatherization – Phase 1 insulation in Library attic/roof space. – Project on hold until Air Barrier Solutions can source the spray foam component in 55-gallon drums.- no update. ii. Bromfield Weatherization — Work complete. Need Phase 2 invoice. b. Future Projects – Forrest discussed with Patrick Harrigan and suggested Unit Ventilators in the Bromfield classrooms. The next round is in the Fall and proposals need to be finalized by end of summer. c. Quarterly Report- Brian to prepare and submit to DOER. – submitted 2/6. 2. Charging Station – HEAC is working with ECI to evaluate charging stations at multiple locations: a. HES – SusanMary stated that there is a need for another charger next to the existing charger. Note that the Chargepoint account for the existing charger is being set up. b. Library – Input from Library Trustees – prefer location at end of parking lot away from building; may require new service; facilitates standard or fast charger. c. Bromfield – The spots by the courts are closest to the electric panels for connecting the charger conductors. Some prefer to have it be in front and be more visible.

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	<p>d. Town Hall – limited spots but supported by Town.</p> <p>e. General Store – needs separate meter; issue with obstruction and limited space.</p> <p>f. Other areas – Harvard Park (track); commercial district?</p> <p>g. Fire/Police stations – Need fast chargers.</p> <p>The MA state EVIP program should provide 100% of the funds required for the equipment and installation, for publicly available chargers. Brian to request ECI to perform inspection of site locations. – <b>No update</b></p> <p>3. Streetlights – Next step is to evaluate a sample light installation in the historic district. <b>David requested National Grid to install a sample fixture. Based on the availability of the fixtures, the work is expected to be completed in May.</b></p> <p>4. Vehicles – Possible vehicles to replace with electric – Fire/Police: Ford Explorers (5), Dodge Chargers (2) F150 (1). Green Community may offer \$10-15k toward a replacement vehicle. Focus on police cars in next capital cycle. Chief Babu requested assistance in obtaining the state incentive for the next hybrid police car purchased (currently planned for June). There may be an advantage to paying for the car later if there is another Green Community grant incentive available in Fall 2022.</p> <p>5. Solar (Photovoltaic) Strategy –</p> <p>a. <b>Steve Clairmont from Solect Energy discussed opportunities for Solar PV in Town. He noted the following:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Canopies and ground mount have higher costs (steel mounting) and challenging financials for smaller systems. Rooftop systems are preferred.</b></li> <li><b>2. Utility (NGRID) interconnections will continue to be challenge, requiring impact studies in several cases. It may make sense to aggregate projects.</b></li> <li><b>3. The MA solar incentives rates decrease in each block.</b></li> <li><b>4. Solect should perform a site visit for Bromfield, COA building, and Stow Road gravel pit. They will plan a visit to the Public Safety building. The town landfill was discussed but not pursued due to likely unknown landfill closure costs to meet current regulations.</b></li> </ol> <p>b. Initial focus on Public Safety Building –Define by summer 2022 for the FY24 Capital plan. HEAC to investigate procurement strategy with Marie Sobalvarro. Next actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Investigate PPA/Lease vs Own.</b></li> <li><b>2. Evaluate Interconnect impact with NGRID.</b></li> <li><b>3. Evaluate with the solar readiness of the building with Chief Babu, Jeff Hayes and Tim Bragan. The building was built in 2007; need to determine if the roof needs to be replaced.</b></li> </ol> <p>6. Earth Day – HEAC will co-sponsor activities to engage with the community on Apr 30. HCIC is planning the activities.</p> <p>7. <b>Science Fair – thanks to Forrest for judging the Science Fair projects.</b></p>
Membership	<b>No update.</b>
	<b>Meeting adjourned 9:25 pm (voted 5-0).</b>
Future Meetings	2022: Apr 13, May 11, Jun 8 HEAC Meeting Location/Time: 8 pm. – Virtual until further notice