

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 11/10/21

Attendees: B. Smith, D. Fay, E. Sachs-Leicher, P. Kelly-Joseph, P. Green
SusanMary Redinger, Charles Oliver, Eric Charles (guest)

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: 890 2891 2897

	Meeting Discussion/Status
Admin	1. The minutes of 10/13/21 were approved 4-0 without comment.
Schools	1. HES Solar 260 kW DC Behind the Meter project – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. NGRID Electric Billing Rate – The rate was changed from G-1 to G-3. b. A new bidirectional meter is to be installed to support the new PV system. c. Select Construction – System is installed. Goal is to commission by 12/15 and interconnect/operate in Jan 2022. Select working to obtain approval of the MA state incentive. Select has performed the work as needed to validate the roof warranty (in process). There was a roof leak reported which was not related to the PV panels installation and was repaired by the roof installer.
Town Energy Project Updates	1. Green Community Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. GC2021 Spring Competitive grant approved award received for the 4 projects below managed through Energy Conservation Inc. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Bromfield Transformers – high efficiency/re-sizing – In process. Equipment was delivered to the school during the week of Oct 15, and work was scheduled to start Monday, Nov 8, with an estimated completion date of Nov 16. ii. Library Weatherization – Phase 1 insulation in Library attic/roof space. – Pre-construction meeting held. Supply chain issue with spray foam. Air Barrier Solutions is not able to get the material. Decide if the project should be re-scoped to another weatherization phase that can be done. – No change iii. Bromfield Weatherization – mainly air sealing, door sweeps. – Pre-construction meeting held. Work planned for 1 week by end November. Air Barrier Solutions reports that they have completed the work. They identified three roof exhaust fans that are missing dampers and have provided a quote for installing new dampers that could reduce heat loss from the building: currently awaiting response from Patrick Harrigan about why dampers might have been removed and his advice whether we should install new dampers. Project i.ii.iii – Contracts issued. NGRID wants to perform walk through in December if possible. iv. TBS Court Lighting – replace with LED for energy and maintenance savings. Proposed. Note that the work has been completed. – Brian to submit request to DOER to honor grant even though invoice paid prior to grant. Evaluate re-scope of funds if needed, e.g. TBS interior lighting – No update

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">b. MassEnergize – this is a software tool for the Town to offer residents for greenhouse gas tracking. – CRWG has launched the software – now 40 families are signed up.c. Annual Report – due 11/19. David updated MEI. Energy use was up due to the increase ventilation and associated heating. Brian to include change in use, new HES and use of Bromfield House. Brian to provide input to MRPC questions. <p>2. Charging Station – HEAC is working with ECI to evaluate charging stations at five locations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. HES – Charger is to be operational by Friday.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 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.d. Town Hall – limited spots but supported by Town.e. General Store – needs separate meter; issue with obstruction and limited space.f. Other areas – Harvard Park (track); commercial district?g. Fire/Police stations – this is being evaluated. <p>The MA state EVIP program should provide 100% of the funds required for the equipment and installation, for publicly available chargers.</p> <p>3. MRPC Regional Planning Assistance – Green Communities are eligible to have services that MRPC will apply for MA state DOER grants. The grant has been awarded to Harvard to be administered by MRPC. The items b and c are to be performed by John Snell, consultant for MRPC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. The Green Community application and annual report service by MRPC is recommended to continue. (\$4500)b. Developing a net-zero emissions plan for municipal buildings and operations (\$9000)c. Preparation toward developing a community-wide net-zero plan (\$3500). <p>These plans can support the Energy and Resiliency portions of the Climate Action Plan.</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. Peter and Charles Oliver explained that the Police Chief Babu is excited about the development of electric vehicles for police cars and potentially solar PV. Charles and Brian attended a presentation by Enel to the School Business Manager Ingrid Nilsson regarding a pilot Ebus as a service program. Since Harvard outsources the school bus program to Dee Bus, Harvard can't participate directly but Ingrid may reach out to Dee Bus to explain the program. It was suggested that a small transportation Town bus could be considered.</p> <p>5. National Grid Street Lights – There is a DPU hearing to approve the 3000K lights that Harvard prefers. David prepared and Brian signed a letter by HEAC in support.</p> <p>6. Community Choice Aggregation – Colonial Power is starting the process to source generation in advance of the Nov 2022 expiration of the current plan.</p>
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Subcommittees/ Initiatives	1. Climate Initiative (Ellen and Paul– Article supporting the MA greenhouse gas reduction goals (currently net zero by 2050) – Approved at 10/16 Town meeting. Ellen working on path forward to create new committee to execute on the approved resolution. Ellen requested 2 HEAC members to serve on the new committee (not counting Ellen – Brian and Paul agreed to serve). There is a Select Board meeting to discuss and approve the new committee. Ellen requested that a HEAC member be added to the Permanent Building Committee – Paul agreed to serve if that option is approved.
Membership	No update.
	Meeting adjourned 9:35 pm (voted 4-0).
Future Meetings	2021: Nov 10, Dec 8, Jan 12, Feb 9 HEAC Meeting Location/Time: 8 pm. – Virtual until further notice