

## MINUTES

Meeting of: Pelham MA Energy Committee  
Date of Meeting: November 7, 2017  
Time of Meeting: 7:30 PM, formally opened at 7:40 PM Adjourned at 9:24 PM  
Location of meeting: Ramsdell Room, Pelham MA  
Members Present: Stan Swiercz, Tony Rogers, Alisa Pearson, John Larsen, Peter Hepler  
Notetaker: Tony Rogers

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Minutes – Line about CCA recommendation should include: *would be*; moved and accepted as amended

### New Member –

- Peter was accepted as a new member; unanimous
- Associate members – can Dan get info on possibilities
- Notice! Two people assigned to a task is a subcommittee – needing posting of the meeting
- Remote attendance needs clear rules per Alisa Brewer. We do not anticipate need for remote participation.

### Slate Article - Topics

- We need more members
- We should include profiles of each member: Why we are each on the committee? E.g. about children, public health, energy, town finances, ... Each of us do it – Three articulate sentences. **Send to Alisa this week!**
- We should include projects for 2018 – make it simple, short

### Solar Consultants

- SDA – Stan: SDA came last Friday. 3 engineers. Brought a structural engineer, Chris Vreeland. Walk through of all bldgs., except community hall and old town meeting hall. CCP very likely will not support solar. School is promising. Roof will need replacement in 3-8 yrs. When replacement occurs will affect costs and planning. Stan very impressed with the team that came and the effort from SDA. Covered walkway, playground shade a possibility. Parking lots - snow is a complicating factor. Highway garage – strong enough? This will be evaluated. Salt garage – yes, a possibility. Issues: one row of oaks on the neighboring property. Rhodes – good shape, strong. Leach field behind Rhodes – also a possibility. Some discussion of financing issues. John asked are there any vacant town-owned properties available for solar (excluding conservation land)? Note: Eversource is unfriendly toward solar projects.
- Beacon Integrated Solutions – Beth Greenblatt. No site visit planned. In a discussion, she assumed we should do a PPA.
- Zapotec will not bid
- Neo Virtis(?) – no response yet about whether they will bid

### CCA+ Update

- Stan's meeting with Sam Titelman fell through. No other updates at the moment.
- Stan is no longer sure a CCA can deliver all that Paul Fenn promised
- We had a discussion of some other options

- Stan mentioned Texas wind – Tony wondered: How does this work? How are recs implemented? Monetized? Is it a PPA? More to learn
- John opined on the big picture: that CCA covers everyone while Mass Energy requires a door-door approach. He also made another eloquent point that was not captured by the recorder! Does anyone remember John's eloquence?
- Alisa – Colonial power has a new concept. We should ask them to talk to us. We should see what can they do for us.

#### Heat Pump Solution for CCP

- Tony reported on Climate HVAC visit. Ultimately, they decided they could only provide a design and costs, etc. through an RFP
- Stan had a discussion with one of the SDA guys. His opinion was a commercial building this size can't be that efficiently heated in cold temps.
- Stan – we need to have multiple people in on a discussion about this building. Town should get together to solve it. We will need to get an RFP. **Stan will follow up.**

#### Solar Thermal Challenge

- Stan will send slides about it
- MA is working with towns to help define the details of the program
- Includes Solar Hot Water with a designated contractor. Generous incentives. Available to individuals.

#### McGovern Funding Possibilities

- John has been following up on the possibility of government / USDA grants
- [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) – 2 possibilities that don't apply to us
- McGovern also has a grant specialist on his staff who we can talk to
- USDA site also had some grants – maybe one for any kind of rural municipality project. Low and zero interest loans.
- **John** needs to poke a little more and will then send around links.

Rest of Agenda left for next meeting

Meeting next week. Time to be determined.