

Colrain Energy Committee Meeting Notes, 8/16/18, Meeting # 15

Present: Elizabeth Erickson, Rocky Lively, Therese Fitzsimmons, Peter Brooks, Jonathan Lagreze, Lynn DiTullio, Alysa Larose

Agenda: Green Community, CCA, Promoting MassSave, Other business.

15-1 Notes of the meeting on July 18 were accepted.

15-2 Green Community Process , Alysa Larose of FRCOG discussed the application process for the program. The deadline is October 26th. She discussed the five criteria that need to be addressed.

1. **Zoning;** We must show that alternate energy production is allowed by the zoning bylaw. Alysa is preparing the application and will include our bylaw and zoning map. Jon can supply these.
2. **Expedited permitting.** We must show that an alternate energy project would be permitted within a year. A letter from the town attorney would cover this. Alysa will provide a sample letter for them to follow.
3. **Energy Inventory;** We need to show a baseline of energy use and how it could be reduced 20% within 5 years. Alysa presented the preliminary spreadsheet that she had started. She will assist with the energy data input into Mass Energy Insight.

We need to select the base year to use soon. The Bowen Audit needs to be finalized first. We need a copy of a previous lighting audit by JK Energy, Lynn will get the JK audit. Alysa will check on who owns the school building and whether we need to include the Pitt House, due to the upcoming sale.

4. **Vehicle Inventory;** We need to show that the town vehicles are exempt from the Fuel Efficient Vehicle Policy. The inventory will list, Make, Model, Year, Purchase date, Drive system, >8500 lbs?, Exempt?, MPG rating, and function. A list may be on the town insurance policy.
5. **Stretch Code;** Alysa could get the exact wording used to pass the stretch code at the last Town Meeting.

This application needs to be approved by the Select Board. The most likely meeting for us to attend is on Sept. 10.

15-3 Electrical Aggregation; Peter will check on the progress by CPG. The Town of Heath power is provided by Verde Energy. They pay .1087 \$/kWh and the renewable portion is 12% but not from wind, solar or hydro.

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15-4 Green Community Goals, What to do with our initial grant?

Alysa stressed that funding for a Town solar array would have to be requested in the first round of funding. Our most likely site is a uncapped landfill which should not be penetrated. We could apply for a META grant next spring to fund a site feasibility study.

Other towns including Gill, Greenfield, Rowe, Sunderland, and Wendell have used Green Community grants to fund residential energy improvements.

15-5 MassSave,

We should hold off on promoting MS since we have too much to take care of with this application now. We can do that when we have our first grant of money.

Next Meeting, Thursday September 13, 6-8 at the Highway Garage.
Members should be sworn in at the Town Hall.