

Minutes of WEACt meeting - January 13, 2016
7:30 Westwood Council on Aging

Present: Maria Costantini*, Claire Galkowski*, Pam Kane*, Steve Shinopoulos*, Emmy Behlau, and Tom Philbin

Forum on "Put your roof to Work: Solarize and Save" – Emmy and Maria will distribute flyers around town. Identify homeowners who did solar with name tags. Emmy, Jan, John Cummings, Peter Kane can speak about their experience. Maria will make tent signs with own on one side, lease/pp0 on the other. Arrive by 6:30 to set up. Claire will bring index cards, pencils, name tags. Emmy will email LWV. Claire will email all Westwood contacts, "please forward". Maria will bring a laptop and a slide projector.

Solarize Mass program - We sought the advice of Tom Philbin (Westwood Energy Manager) on whether to pursue this program. He will investigate. Tom said it took 3 months for approval from DOER for municipal solar RFQ. May be able to roll residential Solarize Mass in to municipal RFQ. Other towns' Solarize contracts are going to out of state contractors. A contractor must be DOER certified to respond to the RFQ. It may be possible to select and negotiate with more than vendor. The program requires a Sustainability Committee and a volunteer "solar coach" to educate the residents. This activity is covered by a grant of \$2500. WEACt would have to promote the program, if the town applies and is accepted in the program.

Westwood Energy Report - Tom presented the 4 energy efficiency projects going on: 1) at the library – lighting, control system (responds to daylight); 2) Downey vent controls (heat, air quality improvements); 3) Street lights- 1170 LEDs by end of month; next will be school parking lots; 4) 1.1 MW rooftop solar for muni buildings. TP will provide an overview of these projects at the Solar Forum.

Update on WEACt by-laws - Steve distributed a draft, still needs to make a few changes. He will fix and re-send. MC will sent it to Christine McCarthy, who will then pass it to the BOS for review.

Planning the spring recycling day- Maria spoke to a DPW representative about having a collection event in the spring. DPW is on board. The tentative date is April 30. This date is not good for Emmy, Claire, and Steve, but it is the best option. We will look for volunteers. Maria will ask Pam Kane. There will be a textile collection. Maria said the BHB did a good job last time, but did not collect stuffed animals, backpacks. There was a question about how many bins for collecting textile are in Westwood. MC will email Christine about how bins are sited.

*WEAC member