

WEAC Meeting 2011-12-08, Carby Street

Attendance: Jan Galkowski, Pam Kane, Peter Kane, Wendy Muellers, Tom Philbin, Claire Sullivan

Minutes from October 2011: Ms. Sullivan moved to accept as written, Ms Muellers seconded, AIF.

Approval of November minutes tabled. The comment from November minutes that "Mike Jaillet implements" refers to implementing collection and reporting of energy data.

Bicycle-Pedestrian Dedham, Westwood and possibly other communities won a grant, MAPC (Metro Area Planning Council), per minutes from October. Needham is putting signage out. Westwood planning coordinated bike paths.

DPW Director Quiram presented trash collection contract progress to Selectmen. Vicky recommended 64 gallon wheeled trash cart and weekly automated collection, with 96 gallon wheeled recycling cart with present biweekly schedule. Weekly recycling is more expensive. One selectmen expressed some reservations about limiting the size of the containers, and for charging extra for excess trash, as Norwood does. Selectmen requested that WEAC (Sullivan) provide a sensitivity curve of recycling versus trash from area towns with the proposed system. Waste Management bid due in 15th January 2012, contract expires June 2012. Asked about whether new trash regulations need to go to Town Meeting, and Mike Jaillet said "No". RecycleBank mechanism weighs recycling, and rewards households with coupons and other benefits. Next time there's a meeting with Selectmen concerning trash, WEAC will attend.

Tom updated regarding NSTAR: Need permission to have NSTAR audit Fire Department, Senior Center, and the Police Station. Money is available to improve energy efficiency in these three buildings. Schools: Martha Jones payback time is long. NSTAR working up proposals for improvements for remainder of schools. High School has "T8 technology" (lighting) with new ballasts. After proposal on schools received, need to get permission to audit. Quite possibly a four year payback. High school refrigeration improvements will be about three year payback.

Selectmen will consider whether to support a Warrant Article on STRETCH Code, which must be adopted to qualify for Green Community grants, on Monday, the 12th of December 2011, at Thurston Middle School. Peter has gone to several conferences, looked over all the information Jan forwarded, but did not find data correlating STRETCH Code and new starts or developments. Home Energy Rating System (HERS) are not a significant barrier. There are a lot of good examples of industrial and office buildings that have taken advantage of NSTAR and other incentives. Boston Scientific got a million dollar grant to improve their facility, resulting in two year payback. Meeting is Monday probably in the cafeteria. If supported, WEAC would make presentations at meetings, get public support.

DPW Director Quiram asked WEAC to help with a Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) grant proposal, due next week. Award would be for "technical help" such as energy audits. Steve Olanoff from Westwood Planning Board will be speaking with Ms. Quiram on Friday, 9th December.

Data from Mike Jaillet on efficiency of buildings and schools provided to Peter and Tom. Idea of a warrant article to require energy reporting on a periodic basis was tabled.

Next meeting is 12th of January 2012. Joanne Bissetta, Mass. Dept. of Energy Resources, is coming to further discuss Green Community Grants.