

Edgartown Energy Committee
Minutes for Thursday, October 29, 2020, 4:30 pm via Zoom

Committee Members: Alan Strahler (Chair), Carla Cooper, Jack Ensor, Kat Monterosso, Bonni Widdoes; Associates, Geoff Thors, Stephen Turner

1. September 18 minutes were approved unanimously.
2. Energy Audits and Possible Energy Reduction Measures to be Taken
 - a. Energy audits for the Edgartown School and the Council on Aging are complete. The School was revisited to find where LED bulbs were needed. Waiting for funds from Green Communities to replace the remaining non-LED bulbs.
 - b. No-cost proposals received for all buildings this week, Alan following up with James on how to proceed
 - c. Water department wants to go ahead with all Energy Conservation Measures on its list – Bill Chapman has budgeted for them. This includes VFD motor for well station (3 have already been upgraded). 100% incentive for town for last one.
3. Green Community Status
 - a. Stretch Code will have to wait until Spring Town Meeting
 - b. Margaret Song at CLC says her funding to help us will last through next summer.
 - c. Also due to COVID, Green Communities will probably take rolling applications next year, so we don't have to wait until December 2021 if Stretch Code is passed.
4. Solar Energy Projects in Edgartown
 - a. \$15K allocation approved at last year's town meeting will fund a solar consultant to help the Town review lease deal for solar site at former landfill.
5. EV Chargers (Bonni)
 - a. On hold until spring TM- We would still need to send RFP's for charger providers.
 - b. Just in from Kim Peters – need to “refresh” our Eversource application at end of December/early January to connect charging stations to Eversource power supply.
6. Edgartown Master Plan 2020-2030
 - a. First Zoom Sept 29 – Kat reported that the first meeting was limited to Tech issues & introductions. She is impressed with the varied experience and background of the members. Last master plan 1990. Several members – renewable energy/climate are their priorities.
7. Report on Current Island Meetings and Other Activities Related to Energy Issues (Alan)
 - a. Energy Efficiency Advisory Council listening sessions – 3-year cycle of planning process for Mass Save, CLC.
 - i. Alan gave testimony plugging CLC 100% incentives plus Cape and Vineyard Electrification Offering (CVEO), which provides free solar + battery + heat pump for low income households
 - ii. Bonni to give testimony at November 2 session. Erik Peckar to join for Vineyard Power as well.
 - b. MVC – Climate Change Adaptation Context Booklet for EDG –

- i. Presented to BoS on October 19. Summarizes Edgartown concerns and efforts and puts in perspective of island-wide actions. Also many links with relevant resources.
 - ii. Town is contemplating forming a Climate Committee. Alan likes citizens committee v. town rep committee. Energy Committee – Mitigation; Climate Committee - adaptation focus.
- c. MVC Climate Action Task Force (CATF)
 - i. Energy Model working group -- Harmonizing 3 plans (Electric/buildings/transportation), developing goals and actions for reducing GHG release.
 - ii. Carbon Sequestration (salt marshes) -- Discussing planning activity with Woodwell (former Woods Hole Group), looking for funding. Possible DCPC for salt marshes discussed.
 - iii. PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy) program – Fed program that Mass has joined. Low-cost loans for solar etc. tied to property ownership. Commercial and residential loans. Deciding how and where to promote. VSEC also interested. WT may be adopting for Scotts Grove development. Needs article on Town Warrant.
 - iv. Climate Change Coordinator position – applicant identified, negotiating.
 - v. Fire danger – Discussion – Awareness, need on-island state forest supervisor, possible booklet on fire. Op-Ed by David Foster on island fire history.