

Nahant Green Community Committee Meeting
October 16, 2017
Town Hall

Members Present: Margaret Alexanders, Enzo Barile, Nick Bokron, Ellen Goldberg, Lisa Haley, Chet Hopkins, Diane Monteith, Teri Motley, Johnny Zimmerman-Ward
Excused: Nicole Goguen, Abigail Roberts. Absent: Susan Thomas
Guest: Neal Duffy

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 by the Chair, Diane Monteith.

Introductions were exchanged between Johnny Zimmerman-Ward and the other committee members.

Meredith Tibbo will not be able to serve because of time conflicts, but will be available for consultation relating to the Johnson School if needed.

Minutes for 10/16/17 were approved. Motion made by Johnny Zimmerman Ward, seconded by Lisa Haley. It was noted that the \$270,000 National Grid Calculation of Purchase price cost of the town buying the streetlights, quoted in the September meeting was incorrect. The accurate cost calculation of Purchase Price is \$70,000. The date of the utility estimate is being researched.

The Chair apologized for the fact that the meeting schedule had to be changed due to late Open Meeting posting. Discussion ensued of the requirements under the Open Meeting Law for this committee's functioning. Members can talk to each other about facts and to exchange information, but we cannot express opinions outside of open meetings. Nobody should send an email or other communication to more than 6 of the committee members. To be safe, communication with other committee members should go through the Chair.

Town website: All agreed it is important to share the Green Community Committee information with the public. Diane Monteith and Enzo Barile will consult with Robert Wilson about putting meeting announcements and minutes on the town website.

Discussion ensued of the procedures for satisfying Criteria 1 and 2, which will require a waiver because Nahant does not have any spaces for renewable energy industries. The Town Manager will have to send the waiver request. Neal Duffy will provide a copy of

the waiver used by the town of Winthrop, but it was noted that the town attorneys should look at the waiver letter before it is sent. The application for waiver should include compensatory projects such as commitments to put solar panels on municipal buildings. It was noted that Tony Parentozzi, Superintendent of Schools, is very enthusiastic about energy efficiency initiatives in the school building.

Extensive discussion ensued about timing and sequencing of the Committee's work. Some of the points made:

1) Criterion 5-The Stretch Code should be voted on at the Town Meeting in April 2018. Enzo volunteered to work on this. The Warrant closes in January, but Enzo thought revisions may be introduced by a Selectperson for a time after the formal closing if needed. The biggest part of getting the Stretch Code passed will be educating the public about it well in advance. The application for a \$90,000 planning grant and the work on Criterion 3 can go forward in tandem.

The L.E.D streetlight conversion needs to be completed by 12/31/18. The town has been in contact with National Grid as a first step in the process. MAPC is administering DOER grants to help with this. Patrick Roach is the MAPC Energy Coordinator on streetlight conversion DOER grants who can be consulted. Enzo Barile, Nick Bokron, and Diane Monteith will work on the streetlight conversion initiative.

Neil Duffy shared that street light conversion grant money may run out, but the more towns apply for help with this, the greater the possibility that the State will appropriate more money for it.

Energy audits are not strictly necessary, but they are free and greatly improve the strength of a Green Community application. Very complicated technical discussion ensued.

At 8PM, the sub-committees charged with the various Criteria broke out into discussions of their own process and goals. The committee reconvened at 8:20, and each group reported on their plans between now and the next meeting:

Criterion 1 and 2: The sub-committee dealing with Criteria 1 and 2, Lisa Haley and Abby Roberts, will put together a waiver letter draft with consultation with the Town Manager and attorneys.

Criterion 3- Work will begin on the baseline inventory process, with Johnny Zimmerman-Ward acting as point person for uploading data into the DOER's

MassEnergyInsight (MEI) tool. Neil Duffy will help with obtaining a secure password for Johnny. A second password will be used by the whole committee. They will work on a strategy to identify the best baseline year against which the town's efforts will be measured.

For Criterion 4, Teri Motley and Margaret Alexander will get an inventory of town vehicles. It was noted that, though Nahant has few or no municipal vehicles that are not covered by waivers, the town can make other efforts, such as putting up bike racks at municipal buildings, instituting a no-idling policy, or exploring the use of biodiesel in the (few) municipal vehicles which (still) use diesel.

Also for Criterion 4: Margaret Alexander, Teri Motley, and Enzo Barile will work with department heads to get commitment to purchase fuel-efficient vehicles to the extent possible.

The Criterion 5 group did not meet, but will get together before the next meeting. The groups can meet between full committee meetings.

Ellen Goldberg will create a Google site to collect work product and data. Like the MEI tool, a password available to the whole committee will be created.

Next meeting, October 30 at 7 PM.

Margaret Alexander moved, Lisa Haley seconded, to Adjourn. All in Favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Teri Motley, Secretary Pro