

## **Waltham Energy Action Committee Minutes**

**Dec 10, 2015**

### **1. Community Development Block Grant Application Discussion**

How much money is available?

What are the hours for technical assistance?

Are there sample applications available?

Could we ask Eversource to do an audit of buildings we're considering?

Talk with Mayor about possible target buildings. Could we use MEI data?

WEAC Jan 14 meeting review application, come up with questions

2. Green Communities – Mayor provided revision of zoning law, didn't do it through Economics and Development on Monday, Darcy has what he needs, he'll set up another meeting – Mel will keep in touch with Darcy.
3. NSL email from Jim – Here's the link to the NSL site for community solar. It's a win-win program for people who cannot put solar on their roofs. To join the program, no money down is required. They sell you the electricity at a rate lower than the rate you pay to your power company. They have 9 openings left for the site they are developing. This is only available to homeowners and condo owners. Clearly it should be made available to renters as well.

<http://www.nextstepliving.com/home-solutions/clean-energy/community-solar-generic?zip=>

4. Streetlight grant update – Jillian – budget priorities for state not set yet, working on program design to be ready if streetlight money becomes available.
5. Transportation Plan – do we want to contribute, influence it in any way? Bike Committee is very active. Eileen is working with committee to come up with biking master plan. Encourage them to do bike plan and submit it to Transportation Plan. Mel will reach out to find out if they are still open for comments. Lexington is doing a plan to target what roads to improve for bike improvements. Martha Creedon asked Bike Committee from Waltham to collaborate. Mel will write letter if there's still openness for it. Maybe work with Bike Committee? Ask them for comments by January 15. Mel will contact Sonja from WLT. Ask them if this is relevant to any work they're doing. Especially Mass Central Rail Trail work – connecting with Charles River bike path for example. Bike path on Route 20 overpass.
6. Room reservations for next year – probably auditorium again in Government Center, waiting for confirmation.
7. MAPC does aggregated energy, competitive supply. Energy is deregulated. We can choose our own supplier. Not transmission that's Eversource. Large energy users will sign energy competitive contract will get better deal. Can get green supply contract. Another way utilities meet renewable energy goals. Websites now available to compare energy prices and shop for just green energy. Jillian has websites. Dept of Public Utilities working on website to help consumers shop for competitive suppliers.

8. Newton Energy Commission outreach – Kathy will write and invite to Feb or March meeting
9. Review of last month's minutes – Voted to accept them.