

Waltham Energy Action Committee

May 12, 2016 Minutes

Melissa Downes called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Melissa Downes, Amy Gortler, Kathy Randel, Kaj Telenar, Beth McBlane, and Jim Mniece attended

- I. Community Development Block Grant
 - A. Energy Audit for library
 1. Discussed features of free Eversource audit vs ASHRAE Level 2. Eversource is probably ASHRAE Level 1
 2. MEI library data – will that be enough for Level 2
 3. Would Mayor fund an energy audit for library?
 4. What's the square footage of library?
 5. RISE Engineering needs Blueprints for mechanicals and electrical, 12 mos of utility bills, footprint of the building to RISE engineering.
 - B. How is the money distributed?
- II. Mass. Sustainability Conference in Northampton – Mel and Kaj attended
 - A. Need notes from Mel or Kaj
 - B. Fernald and High School buildings should be Zero Net Energy or at least zero net fossil fuel
- III. Styrofoam/Plastic Bag Reduction?
 - A. Cambridge and Somerville have banned plastic shopping bags. There's an initiative to ban styrofoam up in Cambridge. Maybe cooperate with Downtown Waltham Partnership or Healthy Waltham? Ask City Council to pass an ordinance?
- IV. Promote extension of river activities, it's one of Waltham's best assets
- V. Climate Change
 - A. Senator Michael Barrett is introducing a bill on carbon in state senate
 - B. Germany is shutting down their nuclear power plants, Japan is turning theirs back on nuclear
 - C. U.S. carbon emissions are high compared to other countries. We need to double our fuel efficiency standards in the next decade.
 - D. Climate change is a social/environmental issue
- VI. As of right zoning update
 - A. Councillors MacLachlan, Rourke, and Darcy have been contacted to encourage them to move the amendment through before the close of this fiscal year so that we can apply for Green Communities in October 2016. Call your City Councillors at-large Councillors to encourage them to do the same

VII. Annual Picnic Plans.