

## **WEAC Minutes**

**June 9, 2016**

Attending: Melissa Downes, Beth MacBlane, Amy Gortler, Kaj Telenar, Jillian DiMedio, Eileen Zubrowski

Annual Picnic – July 24 Prospect Hill picnic Mel will reserve it

### **CDBG –**

Mel met with Kelly, library director. The library needs a new roof, there's no AC in archive room, and new boiler. Kelly will get square footage, blueprints and mechanics, we'll get usage data and cost from MEI. Do audit at 7am. People who should be present: Kelly, asst dir, Gary Smith custodian, WEAC rep, Bill Forte. Need access to whole building including roof, will Bill Forte be able to give us access?

Question? Did we not include library with solar panels because of roof? Are they replacing roof?

There's a tool that cities can use to do their budgets and people can see how their cities are doing. Mel learned of at a disruptive technologies conference. It's at Cleargov.com

Inform Mayor that we're going to bring in Rise Engineering, utility vendor that Eversource recommends for the audit. Utility Vendor Program they have to spend a certain amount of money on efficiency every year. Utility rate payers fund the program as well as some through, part of MassSave? Or is it part of Green Communities Act? Jillian will find out.

What fuel does library use for heating check GC charts from 2011.

### **Green Communities**

John McLaughlin, Patrick O'Brien – Amy talked to both of them

Jim talked to Bob Logan

Mel will reach out to Diane LeBlanc

I'll ask Mayor for advocate on your behalf for wording on as of rite zoning. And if we can work on other things while we're waiting.

Mothers Out Front meeting with the Mayor focusing on Green Communities

### **Fernald update.**

Could we use Green Community money for Fernald property? We'd have to add meters to Mass Energy database. We could use it for one of the competitive grants. After we use the initial money to reduce our use by 20%.

Mayor really supported the purchase. 50 residents still there with staff, pay \$20K/yr in utilities, \$50K/yr for security. Recreational space interest, daylight the pond for flood control, neighbors most interested, housing for veterans. It was a center for eugenics, medical experiments on children, outdoor rink, sledding hill, museum with history. 180 acres. Infrastructure, particularly utility infrastructure is very old. There's a committee that works on this.

**Omnibus Energy Bill** – hydro from Canada plus off shore wind – passed by House of Representatives, plan to vote by end of session? Jillian will check

**Conservation Law Foundation sued Mass State** because they didn't meet Global Solutions Warming Act, gone through Supreme Court process, so everyone is scrambling to do more. Might be able to expand market for carbon credits, expand beyond REGI.

Need carbon tax to get rid of fossil fuels.

Part of our charter from the Mayor – newsletters, website, etc.,

Do we know what all of the groups are in Waltham are doing with respect to green initiatives? We had a Green Forum. Kaj is suggesting a green calendar for all groups posting things, or website for people to post things.

Mass Clean Energy Center – digest send around every day, upcoming clean energy events, upcoming sustainability events, emails are more effective than if we create a website.

Gather information from someone and send out email, Twitter, Facebook. Kaj could put together a sample.

MeetUp? Yahoo Group? Facebook Group?

Facebook group – public groups or private groups. Anyone can post. Beth runs one for fish monitors at her work. They accept members to post. How would we know whom to accept?

Waltham yard sale Facebook group, Waltham family's yard sale. Sustainable practices. Arlington Yard Sale, Belmont Yard Sale.