

Swampscott Renewable Energy Committee
Minutes (Final)

Tuesday 11 July, 2023 at 7:00 PM
Virtual Meeting on Zoom

Attendees:

Ryan Hale, Diana Eddowes, David Zalanowski, John Graff, George Delegas, Martha Schmitt, Doug Thomson

1. Minutes from the REC meeting on May 23, 2023 were reviewed and unanimously approved.
2. Status of action items from the last meeting:
3. The committee reviewed the list of initial project ideas compiled by the Climate action Plan Committee (CAPC). Diana pointed out that the initial project list is similar to what is now set up to be tracked in the CAPC Airtable. Martha agreed and recommended that the list be retired or replaced with the set of recommendations for using funding from Revise
4. Diana reported that the Revise money (around \$3500) was allocated to the town, and that REC would need to request funding from the town for a specific project or disbursement. The committee is still soliciting Ideas on projects
5. The committee members reviewed the "Airtable" set up by CAPC that enumerates all of the actions in the Resilient Swampscott Plan, along with high priority actions that CAPC tagged to work on over the next year. Each of these also has a sponsor from CAPC, and also a town committee or contact that would be involved in implementing the action. A number of actions would be assigned to REC, especially in the Buildings & Energy and Transportation focus areas. The committee discussed reviewing progress on these actions at monthly REC meetings.
6. Martha reported on Community First Program (CFP) progress. Canvassing to small businesses in town to get these businesses signed up for energy audits and weatherization projects is planned for Tuesday July 19th. Energy audits are free and weatherization projects are available at a very low cost. Energy Source is the contractor leading this effort for our town for small businesses. Revise is the contractor for homeowners and renters..
7. The committee discussed EV charging stations. Martha followed up on a contact for the property manager for Marshalls, and sent an email requesting a meeting, but did not receive a response. Diana suggested that other solutions should also be considered, such as solar covered carports in parking lots. Beverly has set one up and it was privately financed. Ryan recommended that we look into pole mounted chargers such as Melrose installed, and advised that Marzie would have the right contact from National Grid.
8. Doug proposed that we reach out to Green Communities for help and identified the contact that Neal Duffy recommended (Mark.Rabinsky@mass.gov). Martha asked whether we report progress to Green Communities and there is a contact for our town that manages grant projects and does this reporting (Vicky).
9. Committee members were reminded to review the REC web pages (links on left hand side) and recommend updates.
10. The next meeting date was set for Tuesday August 8th.