

Renewable Energy and Sustainability Advisory Committee (RESAC) – Town of Yarmouth

Meeting Minutes

Date: Sept 11, 2019

Present:

Committee Members

Toby Ahrens
Chuck Parker
Heather Abbot
Scott Sherriff
David Ertz

Town Council Members

April Humphrey

Town Employees

(none)

Public

Peter Fromuth

Votes & Decisions:

- Minutes from previous meeting approved 4-0 (David Craig absent, Kurt Adams absent, David Ertz not present at previous meeting).

Commitments Made:

- Heather to finalize plans for Oct showing of movie Reinventing Power at the Yarmouth Library.
- David will continue to make progress on locations and logistical considerations for a potential town solar installation. Vetting the potential of the remediated CMP pole yard will be a priority.
- Toby will continue to stay up to date on building committee energy efficiency considerations.
- Heather will continue working on a draft RESAC column for the quarterly town newsletter.
- Chuck will continue to work with Window Dressers.
- April will reach out to Freeport to get status of municipal solar efforts and potential for collaboration and contact Julie Rosenbach – City of South Portland
- Toby and Scott to meet with Yarmouth Chamber of Commerce.
- Scott to take the lead on researching Efficiency Maine program for charging stations and how it may help local businesses to install them. determine if we can initiate and effort to reach out to the largest businesses in Town and facilitate installations of stations.
- Toby to post draft presentation for RESAC update to Town Council on shared drive.
- Heather to present RESAC updates to Town Council Ops Committee meeting on Sept 26th
- Next meeting is Oct 9th

Meeting Notes:

- General updates:
 - Sept 26th at 6pm is Tour of South Portland Solar Array, 929 Highland Ave South Portland, Foulmouthed beer will be served. It is important that at least one committee attend to network with other municipalities
 - Tri-Town EV event in Falmouth on Sept 14th.
- Heather to finalize plans for Oct showing of movie Reinventing Power at the Yarmouth Library on Oct 15, 22, or 29. Heather will reach out to potential speakers to get their preference on showing dates.
- Heather printed flyers and distributed to committee members for further distribution

- David provided an update on the municipal solar project and will update the Town Council presentation to reflect current status. Progress has been made on several fronts, including understanding the history of the pole yard site as well as high-level cost estimates of getting 3-phase power to potential sites as well as moving other utilities to new poles. The committee agreed that it would be good to reach out to neighboring communities to get a sense of opportunities for collaboration, potentially for being a participant in a project outside the Town's borders. April will reach out to Freeport to get the status of their RFP.
- Chuck provided an update on Window Dressers.
- The Committee discussed a potential November community education event (library?) focused on energy efficiency going into the winter. Heat pumps (Chuck has confirmed interest from a good contact), Window Dressers, and other efficiency measures (Efficiency Maine?) could be the focus. The event would likely take place in mid-Nov to stay clear of Thanksgiving.
- Scott to take the lead on researching Efficiency Maine program for charging stations and the cost to install them. Need to determine if we should initiate an effort to reach out to the largest businesses in Town and facilitate installation of stations. Grants may be available.