



**Energy & Sustainability Committee**  
**Minutes**  
**Thursday, January 6, 2022**  
**7:00 p.m.**  
**Remote Meeting**

**Attendees:**

members; Bob Dorer (guest chair), John Shutkin, Suzy Enos (*minute taker*), Chris Rabinowitz, Margot Fleischman

liaisons; Chris Gittins (*Planning Board*)

town staff; Taissir Alani, (*Director of Facilities and Zoom host*), Ron Scaltreto, (*Assistant Director of Facilities*), Bedford TV (*meeting recording for later broadcast*)

visitors; Brad Hubbard-Nelson (Concord and HSA), Robert Sella, Beacon Energy Solutions, Daniel Churella BARC, Erin Dorr, Brendan Welch; absent Emily Prince (*chair*), Dan Bostwick.

Bob Dorer called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm and reviewed the various requirements of the Governor's emergency order related to the use of remote meetings and how participation is handled in the Zoom webinar format being used by the Town of Bedford. A roll call of Energy and Sustainability Committee (ESC) members present was conducted. 4 members being present Dorer then proceeded with the published agenda for the meeting.

- 1. Public Comment** – Robert Sella from Beacon Energy Solutions noted that there is technology to create energy from wastewater. Eversource and National Grid are investing. Robert encourage to liaise with Emily if he wanted to present to the ESC.
- 2. Heat Smart Alliance Presentation** - Brad Hubbard-Nelson joined the meeting and shared a presentation. The Heat Smart Alliance is a volunteer organization promoting the installation of heat pumps to reduce greenhouse gasses. Technology focus – air-source and ground-source heat pumps, hybrid water heaters. The HSA approach includes education and coaching.

Bedford volunteers could join the effort. There are zoom meetings the second Friday of each month at 7:30am. An email to [info@heatsmartalliance.org](mailto:info@heatsmartalliance.org) will get the meeting details. More information is available at the website [www.heatsmartalliance.org](http://www.heatsmartalliance.org).

It is expected MassSave will be offering up to \$10k in incentives.

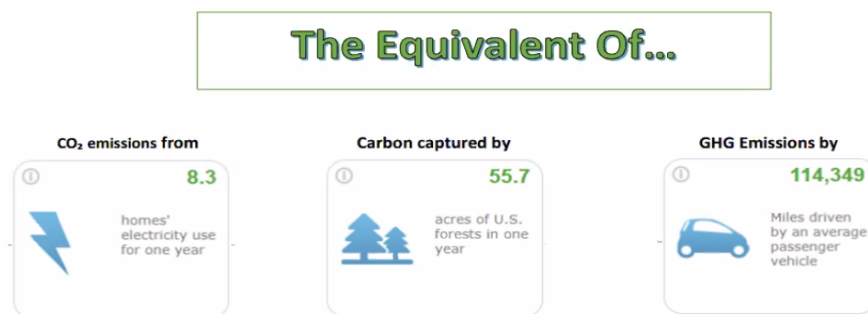


3. **Community Choice Aggregation** – A resident wrote in about being put into the wrong group – 100% green vs the default. Emily will work with Good Energy to research and understand. Otherwise, no updates.
4. **Hiring of a Sustainability Director** – Select Board budget has not been presented yet. The Town Manager was asked to present scenarios on how the position could fit into the town structure. Margot will let the ESC know when this comes up on the agenda for the Select Board meeting.
5. **Bedford Arbor Resources Committee Update** – Dan Churella joined to give an update. BARC wrote a letter supporting the hiring of a sustainability director. Margot received it. Christine raised a concern about deer overpopulation eating new tree shoots and changing the composition of forests and soil. Bob noted this could be a question for Conservation Commission.

6. **Electric Charging Stations for the Public** – Taissir shared a graphic that described the current status of public electric car charging in Bedford.

### Bedford's 2021 Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

12 EV Stations » 16 Charging Ports » 4,840 Charging Sessions » 11,000 hrs of Charging (458 days) »  
8,053 Gals Gas Saved » 54,203 kWh Energy » 50.2 Tons CO<sub>2</sub> Saved



### To come in 2022

1 EV Station at Police » 2 Charging Ports  
2 EV Stations at DPW » 4 Charging Ports  
Heavier usage expected at Depot Park



7. **Solar Energy Legislation – Proposed Bylaw** – Chris Gittins has put the Watertown-like legislation on the back burner for now, expecting to pick up before next town meeting. Chris is investigating S.2165 - An act for increasing solar roof top energy. This would mandate solar production for new construction, assuming appropriate sun. Link to [Article](#) plus [Senate](#) and [House](#) bills.

8. **Hartwell Road Solar Farm** – The Naval Weapons Industrial Reserve Plant (NWIRP) off Hartwell Road is a superfund site due to cold war chemical use and has been under cleanup for many years, possibly many years in the future. The land may be turned over to the GSA for sale. An ad hoc committee looked at possible uses if acquired by the town. A solar farm was suggested as an excellent use for the property.

Margot noted if there was a sale, it would be discussed in executive session and not open for comment. There is no activity to be done at this point.

9. **Monthly Updates -**

- a. Composting – Currently at 311 subscribers.
- b. Town Buildings Energy Use – A little bit higher on energy use due to air circulation in fighting COVID. A little bit lower in some other areas. Police Headquarters construction starting in the summer. The building will be net zero with heat pumps and VRF.
- c. Multi-town gas update – no new meetings since last update.

10. **Network Ground Source Geothermal Heat Pumps** – Eversource has yet to identify a pilot town.

11. **ESC Webpage Review** – provide a link on ESC page to the place in the bedfordcca.com website where residents can enroll / change their program. Suzy and Taissir will get a version of his electric car charging graphic on the ESC web page.

12. **Approve December 2 Meeting Minutes** - Christine moved to approve the minutes, Margot seconded the motion. The motion was approved, 4-0-1.

13. **New Business** – None.

Suzy moved to adjourn at 8:20 pm. Christine seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0-0.