



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

Attendees:

Members: Emily Prince (chair), John Shutkin, Dan Bostwick, Suzy Enos (*minute taker*), Chris Rabinowitz

Liaisons:

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

visitors: Daniel Churella BARC, Erin Dorr, Brendan Welch; absent Bob Dorer, Margot Fleischman

Emily Prince called the meeting to order at 7:02 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. 5 members being present Prince then proceeded with the published agenda for the meeting.

- 1. Public Comment** – No members from the public were interested to speak.
- 2. ESC Priorities** – Emily reviewed the planned priorities. All agreed it was a good list. Chris pointed out we might need to prioritize. It's unclear we can do all things.
- 3. Earth Day Community Events** – The Bedford Composting Fair will be on the Library lawn (same day as a Library book sale!). May 7th 11am to 1pm EV day at the Depot Park – Emily expecting Revise Energy and Green Energy Consumer Alliance will have booths. Emily will get the details and Suzy will draft a flyer. Dan offered to write a Bedford Citizen article to promote EV day with a link to the flyer. EV day could be a good day to provide information on CCA. A ribbon cutting to celebrate the new charging stations was discussed. There is also a 5 ft check that is used to reflect that the stations were a gift.
- 4. State Legislative Updates** – None this month.
- 5. Sustainability Director** – The ESC would like to be involved in creating the job description and interview process. Emily will email Margot and the Town Manager to understand next steps and how / if ESC can be involved.



6. **Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE)** – Christine attended a workshop suggested by Chris Gittens. PACE finances energy improvements through betterment assessments and a lien on the property which repays the investment. Available for commercial, industrial, non-profit and multifamily properties with 5 or more units. To be discussed with Margot.
7. **Status updates** –
 - a. Bedford Arbor Resources Committee – Dan Churella joined. The North Rd project has an objection and it was brought to the Select Board. It passed and the project will move forward. Dan highlighted the benefits of a Trees Master Plan.
 - b. EV stations for the public – Planning in process to recognize Revise for donation. Question on wetlands for DPW station (inside gate, so not accessible to the public). Police station waiting for construction to complete.
 - c. Composting – 321 subscribers (+1 from last meeting)
 - d. CCA – 109 accounts opted to 100%, 15 accounts at 50%
 - e. Gas Leaks – Papa Gino’s site has an SEI gas leak. Reported in 2016 and later upgraded in severity. Christine suggested the town engineer was helpful in the past. Taissir offered to make a connection with the new town engineer. Emily and Christine will work on a Bedford Citizen article together. Last Multi-Town Gas Leak meeting on Feb 1. There was a discussion on using the gas infrastructure for Hydrogen (at minute 18 on meeting recording).
8. **Project Overview: Bedford Facilities** – Composting in the kitchen cafeterias will start after April break in the Middle School and High School. Black Earth will generate emails after each pick up to quantify amounts. By October, the State may require composting due to the weight of material produced between the two sites. Volunteers may be needed to expand to composting to the kids.

The building net zero plan in future years was shared. There is a thorough plan that gets the municipal infrastructure to net zero by 2033. The Library will be net zero by next year.

DPW is evaluating MHP grants.
9. **Network Ground Source Geothermal Heat Pumps** – Eversource has selected Framingham as the pilot town, beginning mid year, \$10M over 5 years. National Grid will do 4 sites, \$15.5M over 5 years.
10. **ESC Webpage Review** – Suzy was sending updates to the wrong person. Taissir will provide the new contact name.



11. Approve March Meeting Minutes - Suzy moved to approve the minutes, Christine seconded the motion. The motion was approved, 5-0-0.

12. New Business – Discussion of the possibility of a swap shack at the composting center on Carlisle Road. Suzy will reach out to the recycling coordinator to see if there is interest.

Suzy moved to adjourn at 8:51 pm. Dan seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0-0.