

Beverly Clean Energy Advisory Committee Meeting
2/16/2022 6:30-8:00pm via Google Meet Link: meet.google.com/nyx-ohre-edm

CITY OF BEVERLY
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Call to order: 6:39 pm

Roll call committee: Julia Long, Julie DeSilva, Fred Hopps, Sean Leach, Amy Smith

Absent: Tom Keeley

Guests: Beverly's Sustainability Director Erina Keefe, Dean Berg, Bruce Egan, Lyndon Holmes, Amy Henderson, Councilor Scott Houseman, Jordan Stutt

- We will approve January and February Minutes in March. Julie to send meeting minutes to team after meeting moving forward
- Johnathan Salt will be our guest in March. Can we ask Home Works to join?
- Open Space and Rec committee document emailed to group for review and comment. Amy S asked for a copy of the document for comment by all. Discussion surrounding commenting as a committee being a violation of open meeting rules. Fred asked what type of feedback we are being asked to provide. Erina clarified and thought A21 was a section that warranted our feedback to include our committee name here and in outreach sections. Julia commented that it was nice to be included and that we should consider doing that with other committees as well.

Erina Updates

- Lease for multi-site solar project and other docs and info to be presented to School Committee this evening. All sites should be active by end of 2022, pending CC vote next week. Middle School battery and high school project both removed from the project.
- State awarded Beverly funding of \$170,000 for level 3 charging stations at 11 Pond (right off Cabot ST) which will allow for a full charge in 30 minutes! Sean added that this program was expanded and EV fast charging will be growing across the state!
- We were accepted into the Community First program (part of Mass Save) in partnership with Salem. \$60,000 grant per year that will cover an energy advocate to liaise between community and Home Works Energy for 1 to 3 years. Focus is on getting landlords in multiunit buildings to upgrade and communicating with those with who there may be a language gap.
- Three-year Mass Save plan for new energy-efficiency incentives announced, including heat pumps are more incentivized (\$10,000 for whole home installation). Sean commented on his home retrofit that he learned that this program is not for a gas-powered home, which doesn't make sense. He asked for help with clarifying. Erina said she will seek clarification and report back.
- We hope to formalize the tool we want new buildings to use that was mentioned last meeting (sustainability checklist for new development during early design phase (e.g., Project Review Team) and Resilience checklist) *see January minutes for more information*
- Training for city staff and committees in Bev/Salem on retrofits and net zero. No response for a vendor for training. We want to fill this gap, so if anyone knows of an organization that can offer this training please let Erina know. Amy S. offered she has a cousin who may be able to help.
- Requests for research: state building net zero proposal is accepting early feedback on it by March 9 (Julia and Erina have info) only 20% of parking requires charging capability. Fred volunteered. Small wind turbine startup needs vetting; Amy S., Lyndon, and Fred volunteered to vet.

Legislative Update

- Fred commented that GFA was postponed to May 2 and likely changing to an omnibus bill.
- Fred, Amy H, and Jordan want to keep the legislative subcommittee intact and paying attention. Julia, Amy S and Julie D. commented in favor.

Green Beverly Update from Dean Berg

- March 10 event at the Cabot from 6 to 8 pm. Community Conversation around all things water. Ted talk format of 3 sessions and live music.
- Several workshops in concert with Endicott and Long Hill/Trustees in the works! Check GreenBeverly.org for calendar
- Beverly Cultural Council grant awarded for the exhibit at the Cummings Center spot. Dean hopes to have it ready to open by April 22. May stretch out to 1 year anniversary on May 2, when GB will do a ribbon cutting with the Greater Beverly Chamber
- Three big projects:
Food Diversion: Food from local markets, farms, and restaurants. Looking for used/refurbed fridges and freezers for the project, which will likely run out of the First Baptist Church. The food will then go to food programs that serve the community.
- Green Up 100: In concert YMCA, Harborlight Community Partners, Beverly Housing Authority to subsidize upgrades to clean energy
- Tufts University Research project: Working with Masters students building a local coalition to explore urban ag and local food production opportunities. At the end of the program, GB hopes to use this work to go for other grants, etc.

Earthfest Update

Sunday after Earth Day, 1 to 4 at Lynch Park, to include music, nature activities, mini EV exhibits, and other "action" projects, Endicott and Monserrat are participating. Endicott will repeat a version of its fashion show that Endicott is hosting 2/17. The goal is to have "mental" rather than actual takeaways. Waste Reduction Committee will be doing a presentation on "closing the loop" with tables on composting and pollinator-friendly plants. Looking for a similar activity from CEAC that "touches people." Amy S. commented on Ugandan workshops on clean energy: one group came up with an immersion blender that can make smoothies for softer fruit. Could be a collaboration with Beverly Bike Committee. More discussion to follow for Earthfest ideas. Erina hopes Green Beverly, Home Works, and National Grid could include "goodies", including a photo op frame and a plexi house.

Bruce Egan Update

Slides presented by Bruce on nuclear fusion energy; NOAA sea-level rise and coastal flood hazards; first time that Nobel prizes were awarded for climate change modeling; sadly, western drought is the worst in has been in 1200 years according to a Boston Globe article published February 15, 2022.

- Scott thanked the committee for its work. Julia thanked him for his comments and stated how sustainability and clean energy are inextricably linked, making a nod to Dean and the work of Green Beverly.

Adjourn: 7:41 PM

Next Meeting: March 16, 2022