

Beverly Clean Energy Advisory Committee Meeting

4/20/2022 6:30-8:00pm via Google Meet Link: meet.google.com/nyx-ohre-edm

Call to order: 6:43 pm

Roll call committee: Julia Long, Julie DeSilva, Fred Hopps, Sean Leach, Tom Keeley

Absent: Amy Smith

Guests: Beverly's Sustainability Director Erina Keefe, Lyndon Holmes, Amy Henderson, Wayne Miller, Dean Berg, Mayor Mike Cahill, Jordan Stutt

- Motion to approve January, February, March minutes by Tom and seconded by Fred; motion carries 5 to 0; minutes will be sent to City Clerk

Drive Electric Earth Day event update 10 to 2, Saturday April 23 at BMS (Sean Leach)

<https://driveelectricearthday.org/event?eventid=3220>

- This event is sponsored by the City of Beverly, the Town of Danvers, Energy New England, the Clean Energy Advisory Committee, and Green Beverly.
- Energy New England in Danvers co-hosting
- Many car dealers will be there for test drives and Highland Electric will be there for bus tours/rides
- All EV-curious are encouraged to come!
- Erina asked if e-bikes and e-scooters will be there and asked about shared social media. Sean pointed her to the Drive Electric event page.

Erina Updates

Earth Day Event update 1 to 4, Sunday, April 24 at Lynch Park

<https://www.greenbeverly.org/earthfest>

- Bruce Doig and Barb Warren from [Salem Sound Coastwatch](#) will do a live tour about erosion at Lynch
- Sustainability station in partnership with National Grid and Homeworks Energy to include solar panel and heat pump displays and more.
- She asked for volunteers to come and speak about their personal experiences. Fred volunteered to do this. Sean will be there 3 to 4.
- Paul McCormack, Green Beverly coach, will be there to share his personal experience with home improvements.
- Julia will be sending a volunteer schedule later.
- Fred invited people to the Solar Field Farewell at BHS immediately following the event at 5pm.

Beverly/Salem Energy Challenge (kicked off April 12)

homeworksenergy.com/town-partners/beverly-salem/

- During the canvassing, noticing and pointing out opportunities and efficiencies on the spot was great to witness; followups will be ongoing.
- Old bulbs and insulation project for Next Generation Children's Center was a good "low-hanging fruit" project that was identified!
- Street team is still a little "sales-y" but on the whole it was an excellent first-time partnership.
- Julia mentioned how encouraging it was to share her personal experiences (CEAC and Green Beverly) with neighbors. Wayne said the response was warmer due to the fact that he identified as a Beverly resident and Green Beverly coach. Fred concurred. He was a little uncomfortable with the

sales aspect and surprised by the lack of weatherization discussion, but all and all felt it was highly beneficial to the businesses and Beverly.

- Erina agrees that the weatherization opportunities need to be better fleshed out.
- Julia encouraged us all to take advantage of these opportunities to get out and engage in the community.
- Erina is encouraged that our partnership has the attention of National Grid and is confident that they are working with us to break down barriers to access. We have “tableing” opportunities wherever we’d like them. Julie D suggested Ace and Moynihan to catch homeowners and contractors.
- Letter to come from the Mayor/Erina to residents to announce the program.
- Pending energy advocate position 15 hours per week/\$30 per hour.

Solar lease has been approved! Power purchase agreement and construction schedule are being worked out to consider limited disruption.

SolSmart draft score received (Kadmus group). Update to come in May.

Green Beverly Update from Dean Berg

- **Restaurant Project** (Tom XXX point). Dean and Tom started speaking with restaurants on April 19. Many are already close to 100% compostables; others are willing to pay a little more to do better; others are using polystyrene and will need assistance with finding affordable, compostable, and available products. Goal: 3-month pilot with 6 restaurants
- Final Tufts presentation coming up. Action items and outcomes to be shared soon.
- Julia discussed workshops at Endicott and the BPL. Attendance is low, but learning is high! First popup workshop is May 18 at the Senior Center likely to include a breadth of Green Beverly topics. Happy to be working with Event Coordinator Tess.

Legislative Update (Fred Hopps)

- Fred invited Jordan Stutt to share that the MA senate passed a pretty major climate bill that they hope to reconcile with the House. It is a general bill that touches on just about every aspect of sustainability, including incentives for EVs and other business and citizen incentives. Bill allows 10 cities and towns to ban gas in new construction.
- Bill number is S.2819. Lyndon weighed in with excitement that the bill looks to double the amount of wind energy!
- Dean asked if this is the “net zero” bill that changes the stretch code parameters. Erina said no. Beverly will adopt the “specialized stretch code. Beverly is one of the 299 stretch code cities in the state, which gives us access to green communities funding.
- Fred suggested thanking our legislators for their support of this bill and encouraging those who have not. Fred asks Erina and Julia how we can advocate as a committee in the future. Discuss ensued.
- Julie D suggested that we can discuss, review, and bullet suggestions for letters of support and encouragement and ultimately send letters ourselves as individual citizens.
- Amy Henderson suggested having a copy of the bill at Earth Fest and suggested having a version of a thank you letter and an encouragement letter for people.
- Erina suggested anything affiliated with the community should be run by Solicitor Williams in regards to open meeting and committee rules.
- Wayne weighed in that he doesn’t understand why an “advisory committee” cannot write a letter of support as a committee. Fred noted that the original charter was to advise our own municipality. Fred is hoping that the city council will accept our advice and help us to advocate at the state level.

- Julia is wondering if the rules vary in regards to a resolution or a letter of support. Timing matters. Content matters. Julie D concurs. Erina suggests compiling questions for Solicitor Williams.
- Julie D mentions that perhaps Green Beverly could be a vehicle for letters of support.
- Jordan offers that Sunday would be a great time to gather signatures for people who would like to stay informed about opportunities to advocate for legislation. Wayne says be sure to get cell not just emails.

Other topics

- Erina request: Many people have expressed frustration with working with our utility. Erina shared a document from the utility that will be included with minutes and she would like comment next meeting.
- Fred asked that Amy H and Jordan S submit letters of intent to join our committee to Councilor Julie Flowers via email at jflowers@beverlyma.gov
- Julia asks if anyone is adverse to continuing to meet virtually. We agreed it works best for our committee for now.
- Julia closed with a quote on leadership by Lao Tzu: "A leader is best when people barely know he exists, when his work is done, his aim fulfilled, they will say: we did it ourselves."
She wants our work to allow people to feel empowered in their own ways.

Adjourn: 8:04 PM

Next Meeting: May 18, 2022