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JUL 18 2013
TOWN CLERK, ACTON

Town of Acton Green Advisory Board

3 Members Needed for a Quorum

MEETING MINUTES

Place: Conference Room, Memorial Library, 2nd Floor
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Date: Monday, June 10, 2013

Present: John Sonner, Selectman, David Keene, Bruce Friedman, Mary Smith, Eric Hudson, Dennis Loria, Tom Michelman, Kate Crosby Green Advisor to the Schools, Dean Charter, Staff Member, Lili Early Recording Secretary

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Mr. David Keene called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

1. Approval of the Meeting Minutes of 05/06/2013 – David Keene

Mr. Keene asked for a voice vote to approve the minutes of 05/06/2013. The motion was made by Ms. Smith and seconded by Mr. Hudson. The vote was announced UNANIMOUS.

2. Landfill Solar Update – Dean Charter

Mr. Charter reported that the project is proceeding. The slope towards Route 2 has been cleared of top soil with the approval of DEP landscape technical engineers. The bases for the panels are in place. The plan is to have the landfill fenced in and the system operational by the end of July. Production of net metering credits will start in August. The system is designed to provide electric supply equal to the consumption of all town buildings, street lights and a portion of the water treatment plant. When the contract expires, the Town can renegotiate the lease or buy the system. There is a bonding requirement between the Town and Ameresco to demolish the system if the Town has no longer interest in using the system.

Mr. Charter continued that the electricity costs are locked in for 20 years.

The Town is installing gas wells on the landfill, in the amount of \$20,000 to monitoring landfill gasses.

Ms. Cady and Mr. Charter are working on a program to educate the first responders on ground-mount and roof-mount solar panels. Our insurance company is willing to co-sponsor it and they will give an insurance rebate.

The Green Advisory Board will be meeting for a site inspection and photo op at the landfill solar site at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, July 8, prior to the regular meeting at 6:30 at the Memorial Library.

FY15 Revolving Fund – Dean Charter

Mr. Charter didn't have anything to report at this moment. He suggested revisiting this subject at the July meeting.

3. School Project Update – Kate Crosby

Greener Schools Project – The project started a year ago and 40 states have joined so far. 14 Green Flag awards have been given across the country. Ms. Crosby and a group of students went to Washington D.C. for the awards ceremony. It was very educational for the students.

Green Communities \$140,000 Grant Projects – All the projects have been finished. \$70,000 has been spent on weatherization and the inspections have been performed by the DOER. The electrical inspections still need to be finalized. Building assessments have been performed by a consultant to reduce electricity by 30%.

Near Future Projects:

- The lights in the swimming pool will be replaced by LED lights
- The lights in 2 gyms, the stairwells and in the hallways will be replaced and motion sensors will be installed
- Single 4ft. lamps with a reflector will be installed in the hallways. Ms. Smith remarked, depending on the number of lamps, there may be an opportunity to make a deal with the lamp companies.

Per Mr. Hudson's inquiry, there is a budget for these projects. The schools will reserve a budget capacity of 90K with a 1.5 year payback.

Mr. Hudson wants these projects to be reflected in the 5-year plan. Ms. Cady will finish the updates by next meeting.

4. Incentive Permitting - Mr. Charter will meet with Department Heads on 5/9/2013 and address the topic

Mr. Charter discussed with the Building and Planning departments of the Town the possibility to help the residents with energy consumption savings while prioritizing the approval of their permits for people who had an audit performed. This subject will be further discussed in a few months.

5. Set a Date with the Board of Selectmen Regarding the Solar Community Garden – ALL

Since the Solar Community Garden project in Harvard still has a lot of issues to work out, the Green Advisory Board members are wondering if this is the right project to pursue.

Mr. Loria mentioned that Green Acton could be a good group to be the champion for this project. He will send an email to Mr. Snyder-Grant.

6. 2014 Calendar - The Green Advisory Board Agreed to Continue to Meet on Mondays. Mr. Charter will Pursue Confirmation of Room Reservation Dates

The proposed dates for the 2014 meeting calendar have been sent to the Memorial Library to reserve the conference room on the 2nd floor. We will receive confirmation at a later date.

7. The Center for Biological Diversity's Clean Air Cities Campaign – Bruce Friedman

Mr. Friedman introduced a request received by email dated May 11, 2013, for the Green Advisory Board to have the Town of Acton pass a resolution supporting a nationwide group of cities and towns who ask that the Federal Clean Air Act be implemented by the EPA to reduce greenhouse gas pollution, specifically CO2 emissions, along with other pollutants now being addressed by the EPA. This project is sponsored by the Center for Biological Diversity. A sample resolution was attached. The resolution would be addressed to the EPA and to President Obama. It was decided during the discussion that such a resolution would have to be presented to, and signed by the Acton Board of Selectmen at an official meeting, if agreed.

Ms. Smith suggested writing a letter to the Board of Selectmen confirming the support of the Green Advisory Board.

Mr. Charter would like to have it put on the Board of Selectmen meeting agenda in July.

8. General Discussion – ALL

Regionalization of the Schools – Will go in effect in July 2014. Ms. Crosby wondered if the GAB can still work with the schools after the Regionalization has taken place, even when Boxborough is not a green community.

Mr. Charter mentioned that the grant awards need to be prioritized.

Public Safety Building - The upgrades consisted of new software for the HVAC control computer, improved graphics and time charts, CO2 sensor control in the large areas (such as the EOC) to regulate the introduction of outside air depending upon occupant load, switches in the Salleyport and Dispatch to shut down the air conditioning in the cell block when it is unoccupied, and override switches to flush the building if need be.

The total cost of the work is \$38,397, cost to the Town is \$27,397 after \$11,011 in incentives from NSTAR & NGRID. The estimate is that we will save 4,087 therms each year in heat, and 65,623 kWh in electricity. The cost comes in part out of the GAB budget, and in part from the MP operating budget.

The projects have been completed, and final training for the Municipal Properties employees will take place in a few days.

Ms. Crosby mentioned that it would be nice to visit the Town buildings occasionally before the regular meetings, when time allows.

9. Next Meeting Agenda

6:00 p.m. visit to the Solar Landfill Site

Approval of the Meeting Minutes of 06/10/2013

FY'15 Revolving Fund – Dean Charter

Discussion and Vote - The Center for Biological Diversity's Clean Air Cities Campaign – Bruce Friedman

Discuss Membership and Interview Candidates for Associate Members- ALL

Update for Solar Landfill – Dean Charter

Update of 5 year Plan – Kate Crosby

Update on Remote Participation for Meetings – Dean Charter

General Discussion - ALL

Next Meeting Agenda

Mr. Friedman made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Eric Hudson. The vote was announced UNANIMOUS.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Future Meeting Schedule

Meetings are to be held in the Conference Room of Memorial Library and will begin at 6:30 PM -unless otherwise noted

2013

Mon July 8	Conference Room Memorial Library, 2 nd floor
Mon Aug 5	Conference Room Memorial Library, 2 nd floor
Mon Sept 9	Conference Room Memorial Library, 2 nd floor
Mon Oct 7	Conference Room Memorial Library, 2 nd floor
Mon Nov 18	Conference Room Memorial Library, 2 nd floor
Mon Dec 16	Conference Room Memorial Library, 2 nd floor

Lili Early
Lili Early, Recording Secretary

David Keene
David Keene, Chairperson
7/8/13
Date