

**Wellfleet Energy Committee
Minutes of the Meeting of August 14, 2017
Council on Aging
7:00 p.m.**

Present: Richard Elkin, Lilli-Ann Green, Jeff Tash and Robert Shapiro

Chair Elkin called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

A request to tape record the meeting by Lilli-Ann Green was made and the request was granted by the Wellfleet Energy Committee (WEC) Chair, Elkin.

BUSINESS

Minutes of the July 10, 2017 meeting¹:

Motion: Tash moved to accept minutes as emailed with agenda of meeting. Seconded by Shapiro. The motion carried 4-0.

Power Purchase Agreement with the Cape and Vineyard Electric Cooperative (CVEC): Elkin provided an overview. Liz Argo of CVEC has not signed an agreement with the proposed solar energy producer and is in limbo as a result of Eversource's request to the Department of Public Utilities (DPU) to change the terms of solar net metering credits. This request has not been decided but may be by end of the year. If DPU finds in favor of Eversource, this would reduce the value of the credits and therefore change the terms CVEC has proposed to the town of Wellfleet and therefore the savings to the town would not be as much. Elkin reported that over 80 people attended the DPU hearing held on Cape Cod speaking against the Eversource request. He thinks the CVEC proposal has a 50/50 chance of falling through. Elkin will update the Wellfleet Board of Selectmen as to the status at their meeting on August 23rd.

Solarize Mass Plus Update: Elkin updated WEC as to the progress of the initiative. MassCEC will pay each participating town \$2,500 for marketing costs. Provincetown, Truro and Wellfleet are interested in participating. Eastham may be interested to participate. Orleans is not interested at this time. The Wellfleet Board of Selectmen will be asked to sign a letter agreement once a contract has been awarded to the solar vendor/s chosen. Questions were asked by members of WEC. Tash was interested to know more about the marketing ideas, and further information about how the program will be rolled out with regards to educating the public about solar options as well as air source heat pumps and electric vehicles. He also expressed that conservation and energy efficiency efforts are part of the program. WEC members have previously stated it is important that the first step for program participants is to have an energy audit first. The Cape Light Compact offers audits every five years for rate payers and also offers ways to reduce costs when implementing energy efficiency measures. Elkin spoke about partnering with Cape and Islands Self-Reliance Corporation since they have information already about heat pumps and have secured reduced pricing for some heat pumps. Green asked that educational handout materials be produced and posted online to help rate payers understand the benefits of the program elements and explain some of the more technical aspects of the technologies in laymen's terms. Shapiro asked about energy credits and rebates. He would like educational materials about these topics to be included.

Old Business: Tash has been updating the committee website with articles that are of interest to Wellfleet residents and the town. He has posted articles recently about storage and solar panels.

New Business: The next WEC meeting will be held on September 11th

Motion: Green moved to adjourn the meeting. Shapiro seconded. The motion carried 4-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Lilli-Ann Green, Committee Secretary

¹ Draft Minutes of the 7-10-17 WEC meeting