

Energy Advisory Committee (“EAC”) Meeting Minutes

December 14, 2021 - Draft

Attendees:

Committee Members

Dan Rabatsky – President
Chris Pimentel - Secretary
George Aronson

Guests: David Ruggiero, Town of Sharon
Braylen Olsen, Relay Power

Relay Power: Accepted into the national clean tech accelerator program, which will help them provide better service.

- Vender Enrollment – Companies they already work with: Include on the Website – HomeWorks and Revise are two they work with on MassSave program, but it’s open to any we’d like to include, with agreed upon screening process. Big criteria is that they are local and have good reviews. Also work with **Summit Solar** – residential solar.
- The MassSave vendors will be mostly free.
- Would just be a link on the town website that would point to their reference site.
- There will be an open enrollment period for vendors. We will include a disclaimer on the page saying we’re not making recommendations or favorites.
- They need a town logo sent to them.
- Survey for people to fill out on their energy and water usage information
- Trying to get the word out for people to take the survey. They’ve gotten some help through Sustainable Sharon. Counsel on Aging newsletter and other types of newsletters.

Sharon Power Choice:

Silas needs to show me how to update the website and change. We should put up a page outlining the PowerChoice saving to Sharon

Incentives Evolution: Utilities have changed their strategy and focus on carbon reduction. Electrification, Jobs and Serving Environmental Justice blocks. Gas utilities aloud to claim fuel switching now. Money’s not going away. It’s being diverted to heat pumps and charging stations. Perhaps we publicize the new incentive structure with Relay Power through a new letter, etc.

Maybe we provide content to other newsletters on a monthly basis to get the word out there.

Solar Projects Update:

- Agreements for the High School: Pilot, Site Lease and Battery Agreement and a PPA.
- Landfill Project: Post Closure Use Permit is in. Local, Regional and Transregional studies are in. Sharon doesn't have to contribute to Southeast upgrades but there is talk about that changing. It's up in the air still. By early January we should have this confirmed
- Gavins Pond is still waiting on an interconnection study. Three years in the waiting but looks like it should finally start in Jan.
- Battery Project at Heights is going forward
- The Library will be solar ready, but only because we asked in time to do so: Solect is interested in the project.
- Also interested in Well number 5.
- Parking Lot across from the high school.

Community Partnership Program – Norwood Sustainability Commission: Giving money out to Community Based Organizations to hire someone to do outreach for low income or under funded communities, and living in environmental justice blocks. They applied for the grant and sitting with Walpole town planner and Walpole is looking to get into that and. Why not Sharon. It's easy for David to do so. To try to get these communities into MassSave. Could grab some of the money (\$35K/year) to pay out to CBO's and religious groups to get participation numbers up. Electrification, Jobs and Serving Environmental Justice blocks. Also can go after areas where English as second language to try to get them to participate.

The Committee Supports this.