

ECC Meeting Minutes
10/26/17

Attending: Tom Konrad, Iris Bloom, Margot Becker, Evelyn LaFontaine, Doug Adams, Eric Stewart. Amy Moses arrived late. Minutes recorded by Eric

COMMUNITY SOLAR (Tom & Iris)

Town to sign up Community Center, Shale quarry on Peak Rd, Hwy Dept. & Transfer Station for community solar through Solarize/Nexamp.

It was agreed that the ECC will do a mailing to town residents alerting them to this opportunity. *Margot to draft this letter.* Letters to editor @ BSP suggested as well.

Solar farm in the works Marbletown in near future. Owner/developer of project Alan Harrari. Marbletown intends to switch community solar providers to this farm if terms are comparable. (Nexamp allows cancellation with 90 days notice.)

HF POLLINATOR GARDEN (Evelyn & Eric)

Evelyn and Eric to attend HFCA meeting to discuss options.

STATUS as of 11/28/17: Project to be a joint project of ECC and High Falls Civic Association (HFCA). Evelyn is a member of both groups. Eric's design of garden was approved by HFCA. Will be joint project of HFCA & ECC. Croswell Enterprises will donate topsoil and mulch. Planting list TBA. Maraleen Manos Jones will be consulting on project. DEP pollinator certification pending. Signage to be provided by town. Will confirm this last point with new administration. Labor on project has been put on-hold until spring.

DRUG COLLECTION PROGRAM (Margot)

Pat Clarke still reviewing/revamping letter. This issue seen as part of town's response to opioid crisis.

BENCHMARKING (Evelyn, Tom)

Evelyn has approached Town Clerk Heather Moody about receiving copies of electric bills from various town-owned businesses (Municipal Complex, Hwy Dept., Community Center, Transfer Station). She has not received copies, but process as begun.

ENERGY RETROFITS (Tom, Doug)

Tom & Doug reported the RETROFIT of COMMUNITY CENTER has begun using funds from \$50K grant. \$12.5K received upfront. Doug pointed out that tours/open house could be conducted at site as educational/community outreach opportunity.

Tom reported the lighting retrofit of the Hwy Dept. Building and Salt Shed has been completed. Installation of solar panels on Salt Shed a possibility

EV CHARGING STATION IN HIGH FALLS

It was reported that Jacqueline Williams of Rock Cliff House is interested in cosponsoring/hosting an EV Charging station. This would not happen for another 6-9 months as building is undergoing extensive renovations. Amount of donation from Hudson Solar is still not finalized. According to Tom, low-end estimate of costs for cost/installation of 2 chargers would be approx. \$1500.

RETREAT REVIEW (Iris)

Iris reported (and all agreed) that the retreat was a big success. She felt perhaps the facilitators should have been organized further in advance. Need for larger more ambitious goals vs. smaller concrete goals discussed. Brainstorming notes: Need to work from vision to strategy to goal all as part of on-going. Tom to create presentation using Amy's retreat flow chart.

EMAIL RECOMMENDATIONS

It was decided that in future we need to be more selective and conscientious about sending emails. Some suggestions:

Telegraph Relevant info in subject line, i.e., "High Falls Charging Station"

Send emails only to relevant recipient(s) not entire group

Telegraph importance of info in subject line or in first line of message using phrases such as "PLEASE READ BEFORE NEXT MEETING" or "FYI" or "RESPONSE REQUIRED ASAP"

EV CHARGING STATION @ COMMUNITY CENTER (Amy)

Amy and Eric are to meet with contractor again prior to construction which is scheduled for mid to late November. The prep/excavation was a bit more involved than anticipated and created more debris than expected; however, this material can be used to create a planting bed. Any unused material will be hauled away by Eric. Budget for creation/installation of platform was approved by Mike Warren. UPDATE: Amy reports that the contractor has been delayed. Construction of platform will now be first week of December.

OTHER BUSINESS

Evelyn's hubby is to come up with some ideas for an ECC logo for us to see at our next meeting.

Evelyn is also working on cataloging ECC press clippings.