

**WN Energy Advisory Committee, April 8, 2019.**

6pm Lobby of the 1910 Building, 381 Main Street, West Newbury, MA

**Present:** Elisa Grammer, Rick Parker, Phillips Robinson, Liz Callahan, Chip Wallace

**1. MVP application.** Elisa is working on collecting letters of support from town departments and boards, including the Fire Department, Emergency Management, Selectmen, Conservation Commission. We may need to attend the selectmens' meeting on April 22 with the completed application to get their approval.

Liz will confirm with Angus that we are on the agenda for April 22. We hope to get the draft support letter plus cover letter to selectmen soon. We will try to get the application out early before Liz leaves town April 26.

**2. Solar bylaw.** Rick mentioned his research on where 3 phase power lines are in town and gave it to Leah at the planning board. She will assess the impact of a 150 foot setback requirement. Rick also provided input on height restrictions vs. height required by technology options. The planning board agreed to change the height limit in their solar bylaw proposal based on this information.

Should we write a letter to Planning board with our comments on the proposed solar bylaw and give them an advance view of our objections? The goal is to avoid unnecessary difficulties at town meeting.

Elisa will send Chip some information for an initial draft.

**3. Microgrid.** No new information . Advisian hasn't given us anything too clear so far about next steps. Rick told them to direct any future correspondence to Angus. Nothing is likely to happen on this till after the town election.

**4. Website and outreach.** Elisa is thinking about taking info from the Green Expo in Newburyport on April 14, and combining it with another list of ideas on how to save energy and reduce carbon footprint. Put it on our website and ask that the town promote it on its website, plus do an email blast.

Any suggestions about adding content to the website are welcome – contact Elisa.

We should develop a good news article about Solarize West Newbury for the website. We think somewhere close to 10% of WN households have solar generation.