

West Newbury Energy and Sustainability Committee Meeting on December 1, 2021 at 7:00 PM, held on GoToMeeting

Attendees: Chip Wallace, Elisa Grammer, Rick Parker, Liz Callahan

- Electric vehicle day discussions – Consideration is being given to holding an “Electric Vehicle Day” open to the public where a few electric vehicle owners in Town would be on hand to answer questions about owning and operating electric vehicles and allow attendees to check out their vehicles. Tentatively planning to hold EV Day in the Spring. Elisa suggested maybe doing it when people are already in the parking lot (e.g., ahead of the Spring Town meeting, or to coincide with Garden Club event).
- MAPC Municipal Net Zero Playbook – Chip attended a webinar. They presented resources (related to vehicles, municipal buildings) that are relevant to putting together a municipal net zero plan. Chip asked us to review those materials as they will be helpful to putting together our plan.

Re: West Newbury Net Zero planning. The consultant (funded by grant) will be doing most of the work. Next step is to set up meeting with Jennifer Hughes (MVPC) to do kick off on WN planning; a point person from the Sustainability Committee for this project is needed. Rick will reach out to Tom to see if he is still interested.

- Green Communities funding application - Town has submitted an application for 1910 building controls and hybrid vehicle. Rick is wondering whether we can place an order for a vehicle before we receive the funding (given concerns about supply chain issues/other). Rick is pursuing that question with DOER; would like to place order soon. It is anticipated that the Green Communities grant applications will become available in January.

Rick mentioned that the Green Communities annual report was submitted a few weeks back and he will circulate the report to the Committee.

- PV Development proposals - Elisa mentioned that we should continue to highlight the solar generation and cost-savings of the Page School PV site. Chip added that we should include it in the Town’s Annual Report. Rick suggested we do an email blast with a link to the updated information on the website.

Other business

The topic of the history of the bus service in West Newbury/possibly getting bus service in Town is on the agenda for the December 20th Selectboard meeting. Rick mentioned the relevance of this topic to the Resiliency Committee (transportation resiliency, carbon footprint reduction) as well as social benefit.

Next meeting – January 5, 2022