



Town of Ashland

MASSACHUSETTS

MINUTES OF MEETING GREEN ASHLAND AD-HOC COMMITTEE MEETING OF JUNE 5th, 2012

Location: Town Hall Lower Level Meeting Room

Present:

Carl Hakansson (Chair)

Alan Weene

Matthew Marshquist (Recording Clerk)

Kevin Johnson

Marcia Reni

Carl called the meeting to order at 7:06pm.

The committee reviewed and approved a backlog of meeting minutes.

The meeting minutes for March 29th, April 23rd and May 7th were approved by the committee individually.

Carl reviewed the process for filing the plan. The plan has been submitted to the state. There were corrections made to the plan, including a switch from Calendar year to Fiscal year 2011. This change impacted the baseline and actually reduced the efficiency of the town's baseline. The high school shifted from having an Energy Use Index of 50 to 58, this is still better than average, but not as good as 50. The Town Hall shifted dramatically from 60 to 90.

Earlier we had considered filing for a waiver, but Joanne Bisetta had advised us not to do this, as she has never seen one granted and it seemed that we might be able to make the 15% required by the state.

Mark Purple recently determined that the VFDs at Howe street were for fiscal year 2011 and we may be able to seek credit for those in our baseline. There was some confusion about the solar capacity, as Matt had seen an article which mentioned installation of solar at Howe Street. Kevin later informed us that they did not end up installing the solar at Howe, due to shade from surrounding trees.

Carl gathered the other documentation for the criteria. Carl brought the revised plan before the BOS and Marcia brought the plan before the School Board for approval. The application

was filed the following Tuesday, on time. The final energy savings projected in the plan is 15.4%. This includes 1% in reduction via behavioral changes as well as a 50% energy reduction at the police and fire station due to projected savings from a new super-efficient facility which may be built.

There was a significant amount of work accomplished in a relatively short time by the committee. Some of this was due to the efforts of Steve Kerlin, who got the ball rolling on the zoning changes before the committee was created.

The committee discussed what our role will be going forward. If we are designated a green community, our charge will be done, it is likely the BOS will appoint a new committee that will look at sustainability for the town in a more holistic way that includes water use, paper, traffic etc. There are many candidates who might step forward for this broader role. Carl mentioned that Alyssa Kamataris, who met with the committee earlier and works with Gaurdian Energy lives in Ashland and would be interested in this type of role.

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded and approved at 7:40pm.