

Solar Committee Minutes – September 26, 2022

Members present: Cynthia Beauvais, Rick Crouthamel, Al Grignon, Carrie Peabody

Absent: Kris Kelesian, Bill Nunan

Guest: Dona Cuppett

Review/Approve Minutes:

- The minutes of September 26th, 2022 were reviewed/approved for posting on the Town website.

Project Workplan/Status:

- Al presented an updated workplan of project tasks. Project overall 48% complete. Finalizing #75.
- The project status/tasks were revised by Al (version date 9/27).
- The committee is 1 week behind schedule – expect to be back on track next week with surveys done.
- Al will update the project workplan based on completion of tasks and present to the team at the Oct 3 meeting.

Survey:

- The Survey dissemination plan is complete. Feedback responses have been tallied. 69% (71 NO), 31% (32 YES), 103 total surveys received.
- Remaining survey feedback is being entered into the Excel spreadsheet by Al/Rick/Dona.
- The team will decide on pertinent survey feedback concerns. Each member is encouraged to bring 6 areas of concern to the Oct. 3 session.
- The team agreed to accept surveys that may dribble in this week.

Ordinance review/draft:

- Al Grignon will work on a Fee Table and speak to the Planning Board about SES permits and address the incorporation of SES into existing town ordinances/use tables.
- Create use table for SES and x-ref between solar and land use ordinances.
- Al responded to questions about fees and how used. Fees pay for CEO expense/salary and stipend paid to Planning Board members.
- Q: Should a bond be in place for SES decommissioning?
- Cynthia awaiting solar ordinance draft from E. Machias/Jen Peters.
- Discussed composition of the Solar Ordinance draft. Carrie will generate a uniformed rough draft.
- Q. Prohibitory ordinance? Prohibition ordinances are frowned on by the MMA. Could approach the Selectboard with survey results to support a prohibitory stance or we can just set the standards.
- Suggest usage of Made in USA SES. Find out more on salt water panels.
- Solar array setback/height – review Land Use standards for setbacks. Apply max height of 35 feet.

- Q: What meter standards would be used to identify the amount of EMR/EMFR? Tie certified inspection to permit.

Meeting Schedule:

- The next Solar Committee meeting will be held on Monday, October 3, 2022 at 5PM at the Town Office.