

Belmont Energy Committee
Meeting Minutes
December 10, 2014

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2015 JAN 23 AM 9:00

Attending: Tony Barnes, Gerald Boyle, Ian Todreas, Lauri Mancinelli, Glenn Clancy, Jan Kruse, James Booth (guest)

8:08 am: Co-chair Ian Todreas opened the meeting.

1. Review of November 2014 minutes, which were approved with one typo fixed, as noted by Tony Barnes.
2. Electric car charging station. Ian Todreas noted that he had asked former Selectmen Ralph Jones about the possibility of adding a charging station in Belmont Center. Mr. Jones contacted Glenn Clancy. Glenn brought a site plan of the Belmont Center redesign. He said it wasn't really appropriate to put it on the street but would be better in a parking lot. Glenn said that Town Administrator David Kale gave Glenn the name of a town employee in Cambridge. Ian noted that an electric charging station is similar in size to a meter pay station. Boston, Brookline and Cambridge have them on the streets in front of their town halls and also in some parking garages. Lauri Mancinelli said there were two in the Porter Sq. shopping parking lot in Cambridge. Glenn asked if there was a charge to use. Ian said typically either the town or the car owner pays for the electricity. All agreed that we need to do research. Glenn offered to call the Cambridge employee and report back at the next meeting. Glenn then discussed the "green" elements of the Belmont Center redesign, which include more bike racks, wider sidewalks, energy efficient street lamps, and more crosswalks and green space.
3. Green Communities application. Gerry Boyle said there was a fine ceremony at the State House celebrating the new Green Communities (including Belmont). The town received the initial check for \$151,850. Gerry has already spoken with Guardian to begin the level 2 audit of town buildings and they will begin by looking at the low-hanging fruit to make best use of the grant money. There will be retro commissioning for a number of town buildings and initial efficient lighting upgrades. The Green Committee implementation committee will consist of Gerry, someone from the Dept. of Public Works and Belmont Light. Gerry already met with the City of Cambridge regarding their experience with lighting upgrades. Jan Kruse asked about the \$50,000 line item in the budget that Rep. Dave Rogers negotiated for additional energy efficiency improvements to Belmont town buildings. Gerry noted it was cut due to budget restraints. Ian asked how the Energy Committee could help. Gerry noted that Cadmus and the Energy Committee will be asked to do a technical review of the application for improvements. Jan asked when the application might be submitted and Gerry said possibly in late January 2015. Ian asked about possible future grant applications. Gerry noted that we could work with Guardian or another contractor for help with future grant applications. Jan thanked Gerry, David Kale, and Becky Rosen and Kate Bowen from Sustainable Belmont for their extraordinary effort in spearheading and preparing the Green Communities application.

4. Greenhouse Gas update and inventory of Climate Action Plan (CAP) recommendations. Tony Barnes gave a brief recap. of the excel spreadsheet that he had shared with the committee with the 128 recommendations in Belmont's Climate Action Plan. He had entered these into an Excel spreadsheet and distributed to the committee for review. He noted that he had received feedback from three members of the Energy Committee and will update the list based on that feedback. Next steps? Glenn Clancy and Gerry Boyle agreed to look at the list and send Tony any updates for the Town sector and Andy Healey should review the institutional recommendations. Ian said he would like a more user-friendly list and we should also look at additional ideas that people might have. Ralph Jones and some members of Sustainable Belmont have offered to help with the revised carbon footprint analysis. Ian noted that we will likely have to form a sub-committee to complete the work.
5. Committee vacancies. Ian noted that we have openings and would pick this topic up at the next meeting if time allowed.

9:03 am: Co-chair Ian Todreas closed the meeting.

Minutes written and submitted by Jan Kruse.