

MAR 31 9 10 AM '12

**Belmont Energy Committee Meeting Minutes
November 8, 2012
Room 1, Belmont Town Hall**

Attending: Roger Colton, Ian Todreas, Fred Domenici, Lauri Mancinelli, and

Co-chair Ian Todreas opened the meeting at 8:05 am. He announced that the committee now has 3 vacancies: 2 residential and 1 school slot. The group discussed strategies for getting the positions filled.

Fred Dominici reported on a discussion that he and Ian Todreas had with Robert Larkin of Enterprise on behalf of the Belmont Public Schools. They discussed two potential programs for the schools:

- 1) A rental program under the Commonwealth contract with very favorable rates, which include gas and insurance.
- 2) A car-sharing program (similar to Zipcar)

Fred said that one of these programs could be favorable for the schools. He explained that he had met with the Capital Budget committee two times to ask that an additional vehicle be purchased for the Belmont Public Schools but then it doesn't really make sense to purchase another vehicle simply to have it on "stand-by," which would be the case. Ian noted that he had communicated with the Town Administrator David Kale to see if other town employees might be interested in joining one of the above programs as well and Mr. Kale noted that the town was not interested right now.

Ian is also speaking with Enterprise about setting up shared cars in other areas of Belmont, including Waverly Square.

Mass Rides: Ian reported that the Town of Belmont and the Belmont Public Schools had notified all employees that Belmont is participating in this program. Ian will speak with Mass Rides as to how signups are going.

Residential Energy Savings Program: Lauri Mancinelli reported that Belmont Municipal Light Dept. (BMLD) will work with Sagewell on a pilot program for oil and electric heat customers, similar to the program that the Energy Committee developed for natural gas heating customers. The BMLD pilot will be capped at 250 energy assessments. The BMLD will also introduce a special rebate program (\$200) for 25 mini-split heat pumps for electric heat customers.

Roger Colton asked if Sagewell will also offer oil and electric heat customers information on converting their heating systems to natural gas and whether Sagewell would pursue zero-interest or low-interest financing for customers seeking energy improvements. Lauri said that she would have to check with Sagewell as to whether they would give oil and elect. Heat customers information about converting to natural gas. She also said Sagewell will pursue outside financing options but the BMLD would not offer for now.

Lauri said the BMLD pilot program is scheduled to run until March 13, 2013 or for the first 250 customers, whichever comes first. She said a notice with electric bills would begin running soon.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:03am by Ian Todreas.

Minutes submitted by Jan Kruse, Vice-chair, Belmont Energy Committee