

Belmont Energy Committee Meeting Minutes – 03/10/2011

Attendees: Jan Kruse
Anthony Alcorn
Ian Todreas
Chris McVay
Glenn Clancy
Steve Mazzola
Jennifer Santoro
Andy Healy
Fred Domanici
Peter Castanino

Ian opened the meeting at 8:02 AM.

Ian reported for the Transportation Subcommittee:

Zip Cars

- Met with Zip Car and they are interested. They recommended that we talk with Glenn Clancy on where the cars will be parked. Also to send a letter to the BOS and recommend that Zip Cars be available to town employees as the town owns 109 cars and that Zip Cars could be used in substitution.
- There are already some 200 Zip Car members in town and they reside on the Watertown side of Concord Ave.
- Zip Cars require a highly visible location near public transportation.
- The Zip Car web site shows a \$25 yearly fee and an \$8 to \$11 hourly usage fee.
- There followed a discussion on various aspects of Zip Cars: parking spots, distribution of cars, who will use them and how do they handle snow.

Belmont Center Train Station

Ian met with the Belmont Garden Club – Beautification is a big deal with them and they have various partners:

- Working with the Lions Club to have a tasteful mural on the building facing the track.
- The Citizens Forum has ambitions for landscaping and planting on the outbound side which may happen soon.

There followed a discussion about the low ridership on the train and what could be done about it, without conclusions.

Bike Racks

- Glen reported that the town is going for MAPC grants to fund bike rack purchases. Initially the town will put up the money while the grant process is underway. The priority is for schools and playgrounds. Other locations are problematic.
- For example the Chaney school is planned to have 321 bike spaces which seems high and may be lowered.
- Glen related that the town accountant stated that we have the money to purchase the bike racks but need a commitment from Peter on the installation.
- The school principals and other school officials agree that we need to move forward with this, that we need a final number for the bike racks and the locations.

Glenn related that he thought the new Wellington school has plans for 24 spaces. There followed a discussion on bike racks and bike riding in general in Belmont,

Jan reported for the Residential Subcommittee:

- The public hearing for the Stretch Code Bylaw will be held in the BOS room.
- Roger has created a postcard about the Stretch Codes Bylaw to be sent to all TMMs.

Andy asked if the Stretch Code will add to town inspection costs noting that Newton is doing the Stretch Code inspections with town personnel. Glen responded that Belmont is using 3rd party inspections where the cost goes to the contractor or home/building owner.

Jan related that there would be a statewide walk to school conference on 2/31/11 and that Ann Paulson has volunteered to attend on behalf of Belmont. The conference may present grant opportunities for infrastructure development to promote walking.

Jan also related that there may be further grants for clean diesel projects.

Ian adjourned the meeting at 9:10 AM

Submitted by Tony Alcorn, Recording Secretary

