

**Belmont Energy Committee Meeting Minutes
March 13, 2019**

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BELMONT, MA**

DATE: September 21, 2021
TIME: 2:58 PM

Present: Adrienne Allen, Marty Bitner, James Booth, Roger Colton, Travis Franck, Erin Lynch, Don Mercier.
Guest: Steve Klionsky.

The Meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM.

Minutes from the January and February meetings were approved.

Roadmap outreach:

The upcoming forums (April 3 and April 10) on the Roadmap will feature the following speakers:

Apr. 3: Cammy Peterson (director of energy programs for MAPC); Aaron Jette (Volpe National Transportation Systems Center); Energy Committee member presenting the Roadmap.

Apr. 10: George Bachrach (former president of ELM and former State Senator for Belmont); Peter Fox-Penner (Director of Institute for Sustainable Energy at BU; EC member presenting Roadmap; Chris Roy from Belmont Light will also be in attendance.

Title of events: "Stop Climate Change – take actions that matter the most"

Belmont Light will have a table at our forums. Yvonne noted that we can collect contacts at the events, but noted GPDR concerns.

Social media:

Erin created @BelmontClimate on Twitter – she published a link to the belmontclimateaction.org website that has all events listed. We can retweet this, and tweet it to the town. Erin can schedule tweets to go out, e.g. two weeks before events, 5 days before, etc.

She also created a Facebook account for "Belmont Climate Action" page that has events; we can send links to events through FB. People can add to calendars and indicate attendance (it was noted that Facebook event is a more modern approach than evite or Eventbrite).

Instagram account is BelmontClimate

Erin has a dashboard where we can see Facebook and Twitter views.

belmontclimateaction@gmail.com is the username for all accounts.

A question was raised: how we can get the town Twitter account to tweet this?

There was an extended discussion of avenues for outreach before these events; Adrienne assembled a Google Doc listing of who on the Committee will be reaching out to different groups/avenues around town.

It was proposed that we have a poster put together for these events. Erin will also make business cards.

LBAC:

Belmont Light is working on a strategic plan for 2020-2025. It is still early; the topic at this point was understanding goals and direction. This represented the first discussion of the Roadmap at LBAC.

Steve Klionsky (Chair of LBAC) joined the discussion. He requested that LBAC be briefed on the Roadmap before Town Meeting. There is a LBAC meeting scheduled for 7:30 AM April 10; Travis will present at that and James will also attend. They will also meet with Steve in advance of the LBAC meeting.

Some comments that were made during the discussion:

Energy efficiency, which is discussed in the main body of the Roadmap document, could be highlighted more prominently in the executive summary (which is the only part that many people will read).

It was noted that purchasing of RECs as the means of obtaining carbon-free electricity can be confusing to people.

It was also asked how the goals for electrification will be reached: what town programs would be needed, and would there be any sense that a town meeting resolution would obligate the town to certain (possibly expensive) actions in the future to meet the goals?

It would be good to update the emissions inventory to a more recent year than 2014.

Adrienne raised the question of whether there should be more discussion with Belmont Light around how more electrification would be promoted (e.g. should extra revenue be flowed back to emissions-reducing activities?).

Other Items:

MCAN has requested localities write to the state to push for a revised stretch code. Marty was authorized by a unanimous vote to write such a letter (Note: Don Mercier had left the meeting by the time of this vote).

Sierra Club had asked the Energy Committee, Board of Selectmen and LBAC whether someone from Belmont would register before Mar 29 to vote on International Energy Conservation Code in front of the International Code Council. It was decided that this was beyond the role of the Energy Committee.

It was noted that at the most recent School Committee meeting, the issue of the Chenery Solar installation left off that Patrice Garvin needed to speak with Town Counsel about legal issues.