MELROSE ENERGY COMMISSION Meeting Minutes October 24, 2019

MELROSE ENERGY COMMISSION Meeting Minutes
Thursday, October 24, 2019 7:16 pm
Cassidy Conference Room, City Hall
Attendees: Susan Baron, Jeff Doody, Kristie Heiman, Gary Lamothe, Alanna Nelson, Sunil Sainis, Martha Grover, Ellen Katz Barbara Simko Rodney Dowell, David Bliss, Lisa Trimble
Guest: John N. Tramontozzi
Secretary: Susan Baron

Welcome and introductions
Meeting Minutes: Motion to approve September 2019 meeting minutes with small corrections. So, moved

Climate Action Planning Sub-Committee Rodney Dowell
- Had kick off meeting and established time line for year in order to create an action plan submission
- Two upcoming events
  o November 8th from 8:30am to 11:30am at consultant offices training sessions to learn about greenhouse gas inventory tool
  o November 15th Focus Group Facilitation training. This is going to help with outreach and education
- Discussion: Public Safety Facility building projects will need to be driven by new DPW director when they are hired.
- Stressed need to show up at public meetings about building plans to advocate energy efficiency.
  o Note: Matt Roman submitted MMTV building plan that includes green building features. Lori will send him National Grid technical help contact for making buildings more energy efficient.

Action Items for 2020
List of possible action items to be discussed and prioritized
- Participating in DPW director hiring processing
- Green building – Education for planning/zoning board. Educate ourselves on process.
  o Invite Denise/ Emma to review building permitting process
- Develop and advocate for Green Building Development Energy Checklist for building approval.
  o (See example of City of Durham NH checklist)
- How do we become part of the fabric of decision making?
  o Advocate for MEC/Sustainable Melrose members to be part of decision-making process
  o Advocate for MEC/green building representative on all Building Committees.
  o Establish quarterly meeting with Mayor and City leadership with MEC
- Relationship building with MBTA – would like to encourage fleet with lower emission- RTA variant?
- MAPC autonomous vehicles group Coordination
- Climate Challenge
- Heat Smart - Susan Murphy is developing application to this program need to apply for this program by November 15th
  o Sunil may be interested in this and Lori will be looking at application
MELROSE ENERGY COMMISSION Meeting Minutes October 24, 2019

- Community Green Electricity Program Promotion
- Green development checklist
- Newcomer Outreach: Do we have welcome packet that talks about checking energy? Can Chamber of Commerce include something in their package?
- Set up fund to assist people in transition to lower carbon footprint. Seeded by local – private & city
- Keep connection to high school sustainability group.
- Maximize use of website and post meeting minutes at that site
- Maximize education on WordPress

Nominations for MEC Co-Chair for 2019-2020
Election will be at November 21st meeting. Please submit nominations by November 15

Current Nominations:
Co-Chair: Sunil and Alanna
Secretary: Susan Baron. However, would like to share this office
Communication Coordinator: Howie has been doing press releases, but will need to do more communication. Lisa may be interested at some time

Solar Subcommittee Update Jeff Doody
- Melrose Highland Church has solar going and is currently selling energy
- Green Street and First Street Baptist is in process of pulling permits.
- Two groups that may be interested. - Cedar Crossing Condos and – Masonic temple
- VFW also expressed interest
- Melrose Housing committee. Jeff met with them. Any changes need to go through extended process.

Melrose Towers Update Martha Grover
- Tonight, is the Melrose Towers condo association meeting
- Rise Engineering has proposed fixes for common areas – Also will be offering air heat pump at 50% of the cost. Here is where MEC may help with ‘branding’ and promotion

Propose Presentation by Historic New England on Energy Retrofit for Historic Homes - Alanna
- Allana reached out to them to find out if they had a presentation about retrofitting older homes.
  - They do and a speaker can be available January 30th for $200.00
  - Motion to use $200 for a speaker from HNE presentation – so moved.
  - Will want to invite organizations in Melrose with historic buildings as well as invite general public
  - Lori will Look into Tierney Hall at Milano Center when she books next monthly meeting.

Future Meeting Invitation Ideas
- Workshop for local advocacy (Paul Ormond) part of Net Zero
- Mass development – C-PACE – we could invite them to present program.
- Invite Denise Gaffey / Emma Schnur to explain the building permitting process
International Building Code Election Update

MCAN has been advocating for the International building organization to stretch code be Net Zero. “Governor Baker’s Board of Buildings Regulations and Standards (BBRS) took a big step backwards, by deciding to remove green buildings experts from the committee tasked with developing a Net Zero stretch code, and replacing them with contractors.” (Quote from MCAN email 10/17/2019 email)
Attend November 5th BBRS meeting
Send letter to Governor and Chair of BBRS

Send email to Jim and Margery ‘s Boston Public Radio show about this. Website: https://www.wgbh.org/news/boston-public-radio email: BPR@wgbh.org
The have a “Ask the Governor’ segment every month.

Other items:
PTO move for Melrose Community Electricity Choice Program – Need to get page to go into PTO to push on Facebook page.
Sunil will put this on community group page.
Next MEC meeting: Thursday, November 21 Milano

Motion to adjourn – So moved 9:02