

**Watertown Environment and Energy Efficiency Committee
Meeting Minutes September 18, 2017**

OPENING:

The September 18, 2017 meeting of *Watertown's Environment and Energy Efficiency Committee (WE3C)* was opened by Chair Meredith Fields at 7:00 pm in Town Hall's third floor conference room.

ATTENDANCE:

Committee Members & Guests (in alphabetical order)
Andrew Airasian
Caroline Bays
Charlie Bering
Emma Clement
Meredith Fields
Anne Munson
Lauri Murphy
Helen Soussou
David Stokes
Jeanne Trubek
Watertown Staff Liaison
Edward Lewis – Energy Manager
Guest Speakers
Larry Chretien – Mass. Consumers Energy Alliance
Lisa Capone – Slowey - McManus
John P. O'Rourke – Good Energy
Stefano Loretto – Good Energy
Philip Carr – Good Energy

AGENDA:

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Presentation on Community Choice Aggregation – Guest speakers from Good Energy Group
3. Planning for WE3C table at Faire on the Square
4. Discussion of letter from Watertown Faces Climate Change and draft of committee response
5. Update from Working Groups:
 - a. Community Choice Aggregation Working Group
 - b. Gas Leaks
 - c. Other
4. Energy Manager Report

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1) Welcome and introductions:

In attendance were several long term WE3C members, along with residents who have expressed an interest in the Committee and/or Sustainability issues along with our guest speakers. Meredith gave an update on new committee member applications in process. She described upcoming State legislation for increases in % renewables required in default electricity suppliers (later emailed out petition to members of mailing list).

2) Presentation on Community Choice Aggregation

- Paul Carr, Good Energy
- John O'Rourke, Good Energy
- Lisa Capone, Slowey-McManus
- Larry Chretien, Mass. Energy Consumers Alliance

Good Energy – Partner w/ Mass Energy Consumers Alliance and Slowey-McManus (PR firm). Began aggregations in the commercial/industrial sphere, have experience in IL, NJ, MA, CA (MA since Jan. 2014). 200 client communities.

- Described forward power market pricing chart, more expensive the further out you buy
- Strict supplier vetting process, insist on aggregation experience in suppliers. Typical number of suppliers solicited is 2-4.
- a recent spike in the capacity market led Good Energy to advise Melrose to return to NGRID supply until costs come back down

Slowey/McManus – Marketing a key component of CCA programs. Experience w/ Brookline: 7% opted out, 4% chose the “greenest” option.

Mass. Energy Consumers Alliance – 35th year of operation, goal is to make energy more affordable and sustainable

- focus is solar, wind, anaerobic digestion, and new construction hydro
- general target is 5% over RPS
- currently buying Class I RECs from Hull, Scituate, Gloucester, 350 residential solar panels, and a wind turbine in Plymouth
- the Cambridge aggregation “sounds better than it is”; really a marginal increase over RPS for SRECs, which will come at a high cost

3) Discussion of Watertown Faces Climate Change letter: Ann Munson introduction and brief discussion of goals of letter. Meredith presented a draft response from WE3C, to be further discussed next mtng. Ann also described a survey to be done by WFCC

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during FoS to gauge depth of public awareness of Watertown climate change issues & efforts.

4) Energy Manager Report:

- a. Streetlight project is COMPLETE
- b. Volunteers needed for Faire on the Square
- c. Update on Ed's presentation to Town Council on CCA

5) New Business:

- Emma briefly introduced state legislature "Community Empowerment" bill, flyer from www.communityempowerment.org submitted to Meredith and Ed for inclusion in minutes
- Approval of Meeting Minutes
 - Minutes from the July 24th, 2017 WE3C meeting were approved.

6) Scheduled WE3C Meetings:

Unless otherwise noted meetings are held 7:00PM the third Monday of the month in the Town Hall 3rd floor conference room. (Please note – no meeting is scheduled in August) The public is welcome at all meetings.

October 16th – 7:00PM

November 20th – 7:00PM

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Andrew Airasian, September 28, 2017



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