

# Meeting Minutes Green Energy Committee

8 AM on Thursday, April 8, 2021

Virtual Meeting Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020  
Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law

**Member Attendees:** Roy Harvey, Jim Hutchinson, Ed Kern, Sue Klem, Ed Lang, Paul Shorb (Chair), C.J. Volpone

**Members absent:** Ann Risso, Jonathan Soo

**Guest/Liaison Attendees:** Alex Chatfield (St. Anne's), Jennifer Glass (BOS), Belinda Gingrich, Emily Haslett (Mothers Out Front), Diana Jong (PTO Green Captain), Staci Montori (Mothers Out Front), Trish O'Hagan (St. Anne's, Mothers Out Front)

1. Minutes from the following meeting were approved:

- 2/11/2021 meeting of the GEC

2. Lincoln Green Energy Choice program and Opt Up campaign

Ed Kern reported that so far 142 residences have opted up to Lincoln 100% Green electricity, about 5.5% of the town. Newton reached about 7% a couple of years ago after a strong campaign and a smaller difference between the 100% cost and the default.

While modeling the new, bright green Opt Up T-shirts, Alex and Trish showed us the hot-off-the-presses palm cards, which contain information on how to Opt Up and a graph of monthly CO2 emissions. Opt Up lawn signs are being delivered to those who have Opted Up, and three sandwich boards with Opt Up posters have been distributed around Lincoln. We are ready to help residents in person Opt Up through tabling at the Lincoln Mall and Transfer Station! Trish will organize the helpers. Paul will communicate with Peregrine about finalizing the Green Choice brochures and getting them printed.

Ed Kern has created a short questionnaire to motivate residents to think about greening up their electricity. He is reaching out to residents through First Parish, GEC, etc.

Sue acknowledged and thanked the many Lincoln residents and organizations that have done so many creative things to educate residents on the Green Choice program and to promote Opting Up, including First Parish, St. Anne's, St.

Joseph's, the Democratic Committee, Garden Club, PTO, LLCT, Codman Farms, condominium complexes, etc. Because Lincoln doesn't have a widely read news source or a town gathering spot, it is important to build relationships with organizations around town for when we do green energy outreach.

### 3. Town Meeting citizen petitions

#### Plastics Citizen Petitions

Trish presented the three citizen petitions on behalf of the Lincoln-Sudbury High School Environmental Club which has been supported by Sustainable Sudbury and Lincoln Mothers Out Front: 1) Polystyrene and styrofoam reduction bill, 2) Plastic reduction bill, and 3) Check-out bag charge. They were on the Warrant for Town Meeting 2020, but due to the pandemic, Town Meeting 2020 was streamlined and did not include citizen petitions. They have chosen to bring these petitions back to Lincoln Town Meeting 2021.

Motion: GEC supports these initiatives and authorizes proponents to say so. GEC members Klem, Kern, Lang, Harvey, Volpone, Shorb, and Hutchinson voted in favor.

#### Climate Change Citizen Petition

Paul explained the Climate Change Citizen Petition from 2020 that will be on the Warrant for Town Meeting 2021. Because time is very limited at Town Meeting, more information will be posted on the Town Meeting website, including an "Opt Up" message.

Motion: GEC states its support for the Climate Change Citizen Petition. GEC members Klem, Shorb, Kern, and Lang voted in favor of the motion, Harvey abstained.

### 4. Sunday, April 18 Earth Day event at the Lincoln Mall

Paul spoke about planning an Earth Day event at the Lincoln Mall on Sunday, April 18.

### 5. EVs

Roy Harvey reported on a survey that he is doing on the number of Lincoln school staff that have or will get EVs in order to determine the demand for EV chargers on the school campus.

Roy has created a chart containing about a dozen possible sites for EV chargers around Lincoln. He will send it around for our feedback.

#### 6. Net Zero Planning committee

Paul suggested that we consider the Net Zero Planning (“NZIP”) committee to be a subcommittee of the GEC, as recommended by our BOS Liaison. Jennifer has advised that the BOS is reluctant to create a new committee without a strong showing of need; the NZP effort seems to fit well with the GEC’s mission; and Sue reported that NZP volunteers participating so far seem comfortable with that approach.

Ed K. suggested there should be a list of GEC subcommittees.

#### 7. International Energy Conservation Code

Ed L. noted that the Lincoln MA Green Energy Committee has been formed as part of the next code cycle. They have paid dues which allows them to vote as town representatives on future changes to the International Energy Conservation Code.

#### 8. Other business

Ed K. and Paul will look into the possibility of GEC using Google Doc.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:35 AM

Next meeting will be Thursday, May 13 at 8 AM

Submitted by Sue Klem