



TOWN OF TEWKSBURY

GREEN COMMITTEE

999 Whipple Road
Tewksbury, MA 01876

Meeting Minutes June 12, 2014

The meeting was called to order by Todd Johnson at 5:30 p.m. at the Tewksbury Senior Center. Present were Vincent Fratalia, Krissy Polimeno, Todd Johnson, Steve Fugarazzo, and Loretta Ryan. Also in attendance were Kyle Boyd, Conservation Agent, and Fred Schlicher from Next Step Living.

Jim Duffy and Tom Cooke were not in attendance.

1) Update on Status of Grant

Mr. Boyd noted that last year the grant awards were awarded around June 26, 2013. A similar timeframe should be expected for this year. Mr. Boyd will report back to the Committee as soon as he becomes aware of Tewksbury receiving any grant award. Additionally, Mr. Boyd announced a GE Lighting Grant that replaces existing light bulbs with LED's. Mr. Boyd and Mr. Duffy will be pursuing the grant.

2) Building Inventory Discussion

Mr. Boyd noted that the Committee previously discussed reviewing all of the municipal building envelopes. Mr. Boyd has forwarded the building audits to Mr. Duffy and Mr. Fugarazzo. Mr. Fugarazzo noted that he has begun preparing a summary on who performed the audits, when the audit was done, etc. Mr. Fratalia asked how old the audits are and Mr. Fugarazzo noted that some are 10 years old.

3) Selectmen Presentation

Ms. Ryan noted that she and Mrs. Polimeno have been working on the presentation and asked Mr. Johnson when would be a good time to present to the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Johnson suggested the fall.

4) **GE Lighting LED Replacement**

Mr. Boyd noted that the Town Manager forwarded him an email that he received from Granite City Supply regarding a GE lighting upgrade program currently being done. A lighting inventory must be submitted within two months. The program exchanges any non LED lighting that meets the requirements at no cost. Mr. Boyd and Mr. Duffy will be touring as many of the municipal buildings as possible in order to create an inventory of the lights that qualify for replacement under the program. Mr. Boyd noted that if any of the members have any information on the lighting at any of the buildings to please provide it to him. Mrs. Polimeno noted that she will speak with Jon Marchand on the lighting at the school buildings. Mr. Boyd will also reach out to Mr. Marchand. Ms. Ryan asked if there is a limit on the lights that they will replace and Mr. Boyd noted that there is not. Mr. Boyd explained that they do not install the lights and that this is something that the Committee would need to address. Ms. Ryan asked if there is a deadline date for when the lighting has to be installed. Mr. Boyd noted that promotion ends July 30, 2014.

5) **Mass Save Presentation**

Present was Fred Schlicher from Next Step Living. Mr. Schlicher commended the Committee on their work and Green Community designation. Mr. Schlicher explained that he spent 10 years working on the staff for the Mass Climate Action Network and played a major role in the legislature of the Green Communities program; he is proud to see groups such as this making it happen. Mr. Schlicher noted that he also served on the Medford Green Energy Committee for four years. Mr. Schlicher explained that Next Step Living began in 2008 with 5 employees and they now have over 800. In 2013, they conducted over 30,000 home energy assessments and they are doing 1/3rd of the Mass Save work in Massachusetts. Next Step Living feels they have been successful because of the partnerships they have made with community groups. Next Step Living is only active in the eastern part of Massachusetts and they do not cover the entire State. Mr. Schlicher noted that they just completed a solar campaign with the City of Lowell and they are working on a campaign with Chelmsford. They have done over 571 home energy assessments in Tewksbury as well as 87 major weatherization jobs, installed 3 heat pump systems, and 7 solar systems. The estimated annual savings for all of the work they have done in Tewksbury is approximately \$33,000. Mr. Fugarazzo asked if there is a way to close the gap from the 571 assessments to the 97 projects actually done. Mr. Schlicher explained that the process starts with the home energy assessment. Mr. Johnson noted that there are over 500 prospects that have started the process and asked what the process is to follow up. Mr. Schlicher explained that most people are unaware of the process after the assessment. There is no cost for the home energy assessment. Mr. Schlicher explained that Next Step Livings goal is to help people be more energy efficient and to use less energy and Next Step also has the expertise and experience to help groups like the Green Committee. Those that are above 60% of the area median income qualify for the Mass Save program, and for those that are below 60% and are receiving fuel assistance, there is a local climate action and insulation program available. Mr. Schlicher noted that they are currently working with over 400 agencies and explained that Tewksbury would be a good candidate for a solar campaign as there are over 8,900 single family homes and their studies show that there are approximately 1,544 roofs that meet the requirements for a residential solar system. Mr. Schlicher noted that he can provide a map of the locations of

these roofs. Next Step Living also incorporates a door to door and mailing campaign to provide additional information on solar roofs and saving energy. The intent is to make the homeowner's aware that their roof could sustain the solar panels, etc. Mr. Schlicher reviewed some of the requirements for a "good roof" and noted that all of the 1,544 homes in Tewksbury meet all of the qualifications.

Mr. Schlicher reviewed some of the incentives available including Federal Tax Credit of 30%, sales tax credit, Massachusetts Clean Energy Center Rebate (depending on the size), etc.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

There was no new business.

Adjournment

MOTION: Mrs. Polimeno made the motion to adjourn; seconded by Mr. Fugarazzo and the motion carried 5-0.

Approved: 8/14/14

No documents submitted for 6/12/14 Agenda