

Falmouth Energy Committee

Meeting

07.29.20

Minutes

Present: Megan Amsler, Matt Patrick, Rosemary Carey

Guests: Charles Rader, Eleanor Ling

1. Community Benefit or Community Host Agreements are a novel tool that offshore wind developers to negotiate with communities. It's an opportunity for us to have that discussion to ask for the following benefits. VW has executed a Community Benefits agreement with the Town of Barnstable and Marthas Vineyard. For more on Community Benefit agreements, go here:[Community+Benefits+Agreement+Summary.pdf](#) Our ideas for Falmouth include:

- Battery storage and solar on high school
- Incubator / office space for renewable energy entrepreneurs & volunteers
- Electric Whoosh trolleys (2) approx. \$2 million
- Bike path improvements/resiliency measures
- Scholarships
- Commit to jobs
- Operations in Falmouth
- Supply house (?)
- Affordable housing (focus on existing homes) with energy efficiency a priority - following the Habitat Model. Low to moderate income (LMI) residents should be a priority.
- Add diversity in scholarships etc.
- Asks that help us with our 100% Renewable Energy Goal i.e. net metering credits or share of wind generated electricity in Falmouth (worth millions).
- Incentives for contractors to switch to electric vehicles.
- Education to help the construction & trades to switch to better understand new technologies, i.e. heat pumps and air sealing etc.

Megan suggested keep ideas coming, add meat to the ideas, have meeting with Select Board. Matt suggested we ask for funding i.e. a lump sum, exclusively for energy efficiency. Put in google drive & flesh out ideas. Price tag. Budget. Priorities. Talk to Select Board about what they'd be willing to endorse. Wind I "renewable energy fund" is a model that keeps funds designated and not able to go into the general fund.

Applying for Green Communities, what are the capital expenditures during this process? Example a Whoosh trolley - can it be owned by Falmouth? Have conversations with friends and neighbors on this. This agreement will help our community have more tangible benefits to remain in our community.

Megan started a google document, open to the public, where we will add to our Wish List.https://docs.google.com/document/d/1HQgVygZb4R5ubLr2LqvZBWI_T5YAcZJr3h8-AfeLwtg/edit

Ask to get on Selectman's Agenda to give an update from the Energy Committee and discuss Community Benefit Agreements.

Action items:

In preparation for Select Board retreat: Homework for all: look at five-year plan and give ideas/comments, etc.:<http://www.falmouthmass.us/DocumentCenter/View/5190/Five-Year-Strategic-Plan---2019---2023> In the past this has been updated by the Energy Committee (using interns). Add to Google Doc ideas for Community Benefit Agreement

Board of Selectmen - Megan will check with Town Hall to see if we are on Select Board for Late summer or fall. If any later, we get on agenda.

Talk with friends, family, neighbors, elected about host agreement ideas.

Next meeting: TBS