

**Sudbury, MA, Energy and Sustainability Green Ribbon Committee
Meeting Minutes September 21, 2010**

OPENING:

The meeting of Sudbury’s Energy and Sustainability Green Ribbon Committee was opened by Chairman, Bill Braun, at 7:35 p.m. on September 21, 2010 at the Town of Sudbury DPW Building Conference Room.

ATTENDANCE:

Committee Members	Attending
Rami Alwan	
Jeffrey S. Beeler, Vice Chairman, Sudbury School Committee	X
William G. Braun – Chairman	X
Dean Holden	X
Edward Lewis	X
Robert Morrison	X
Mark Sevier	
Michael E. Melnick, Co-Chairman, Sudbury Permanent Building Committee	X
Building Inspector, Town of Sudbury	
James Kelly	X
Guests	
Tom Witkin – interested Sudbury citizen	X

Agenda:

1. Review and approval of meeting minutes
2. Green Community Status & Plans
 - a. Grant & contract status
 - b. Action plan – next steps
3. Idling policy
4. EECBG update
5. Noyes solar update
6. Landfill solar update
7. Police vehicle update
8. Street light update
9. Big Belly update & PR
10. Capital budget requests
11. Concord/Wayland joint meeting
12. Selectmen’s meeting presentation

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Minutes:

1. Minutes from June 18th, August 17th, September 7th & 9th meetings were unanimously approved.

2. Green Community Status & Plans
 - a. Grant & contract status
 - i. Mass DOER has received Sudbury's Green Communities grant contract and it is in the approval process. Immediately after approval 50% of the grant funds come to Sudbury to start green projects, remaining funds are released as project milestones are reached.

 - b. Action plan – next steps
 - i. After the approved grant contract and initial funds are received by Sudbury projects will get underway. The School lighting upgrades are anticipated to be the first projects. These are expected to be handled by NSTAR under Sudbury school and town supervision. It should be noted that NSTAR energy efficiency rebates are being applied to these and will pay approximately half the cost of the upgrades – basically doubling the grant money applied.

ACTION: Bill / Jeff / Jim to coordinate these projects thru NSTAR and our schools.

3. Idling policy

Tom Witkin, (Sudbury resident), requested a discussion on anti-idling (not running the engine of a parked vehicle) policy in Sudbury. Tom noted there is a Mass state law against excessive idling along with a reference to an anti-idling policy in the Green Communities act. Excessive idling wastes energy, generates green house gasses and in the case of municipal vehicles wastes town money.

The Energy Committee agrees with this concern and had a lively discussion regarding education/enlightenment/enforcement of anti-idling policies.

ACTION: Tom Witkin to draft an anti-idling education / action plan
Ed Lewis to research existing town anti-idling policy / statures

4. EECBG update

The Fairbank solar project is progressing thru the appropriate town / state / municipal project cycle. Bid packages were issued / posted on September 15th, and a project pre-bid meeting is being held at the Fairbank site on September 22nd. Bids are due on October 1st for a public opening.

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5. Noyes solar update

The Noyes solar project is progressing after some research to determine if additional rebate funding was available to increase the scope of the project. The Sudbury Permanent Building Committee is working thru the project planning and implementation.

6. Landfill solar update

The Energy Committee has held informational meetings with *Borrego Solar Systems* and *Solar Market, Inc.* to better understand potential PPA or land lease alternatives. A meeting with another vendor is being scheduled.

The permitting process for a non-penetrating solar installation is being explored.

The committee is collecting information to draft an RFP to allow an informed recommendation to the town.

7. Police vehicle update

Sudbury Police are in the process of purchasing an energy efficient Police vehicle with the Green Communities grant providing funds for the additional cost of an energy efficient vehicle vs. a standard offering.

8. Street light update

Approximately 340 street lights have been replaced with energy efficient lamps. Where required the fixtures have also been repaired / replaced.

This project is expected to reduce the towns' street light energy costs by 50%. Also, the street light maintenance costs are expected to decrease significantly due to longer lamp life and new / repaired fixtures.

9. Big Belly update & PR

The Big Belly solar powered trash compactors have been deployed to LS, Atkinson and Curtis. Early feedback is good, the committee will continue to monitor as to placement and long term operation.

ACTION: Dean to write an article for publicity on the Big Belly compactors and the Energy Committee activities in general.

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10. Capital budget requests

Several town energy conservation projects are being evaluated to be included in Sudbury's annual capital budget request.

11. Concord/Wayland joint meeting

Concord and Wayland energy committees have contacted Sudbury to request joint meeting(s) to share lessons learned, provide activity updates and look for energy conservation synergies between the towns.

Sudbury's energy committee is agreeable and the meeting on October 19th has been suggested, also it was thought to be beneficial if a representative of the Mass Green Communities department would be able to attend to provide a regional update on Green Community and DOER activities.

ACTION: Bill to investigate availability / scheduling.

12. Selectmen's meeting presentation

Tabled for next meeting

Currently Scheduled Meetings: (DPW Building Conference room starting at 7:30 p.m.)

- October 19th, 2010
- November 16th, 2010
- December 21st, 2010

ACTION: Ed to review committee member's known meeting commitments to determine if a proposal for a change in scheduled meeting dates is in order. Currently meetings are scheduled for the third Tuesday each month with additional meetings added as needed.

Adjournment:

- The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:53 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Edward Lewis, September 23, 2010