

Minutes, Monterey REWG 10/19/22

The Renewable Energy Working Group met on October 19, 2022, at Monterey Community Center, 468 Main Road, Monterey, MA 01245, and remotely over Zoom.

Present in person: Rob Hoogs, Peter Murkett

Present remotely: Peter Grealish, Judy Eddy, John Prusinski

Agenda:

META grant application

The Select Board informed the REWG that there are funds available to pay a grant writer, and, on the recommendation of a Group member, we contacted grant writer Judy Eddy. She reviewed the grant specifications, and estimated 10 hours of work at \$75/hour to complete the application, noting that efforts of Group members in assembling required background information can reduce overall cost. The application allows for questions seeking clarification of grant terms and requirements must be submitted by November 7, 2022. The completed application is due on November 18. The Group learned that we need to search the state's Combuys system for vendors with which the Town may sign a consulting contract without an RFP.

Peter Murkett moved that the Group request that the Select Board authorize payment of no more than \$1000 to pay Judy to prepare the grant. Peter Grealish seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Peter Murkett moved that the Group meet next on November 2, 2022. John Prusinski seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Rob Hoogs offered to organize questions to be submitted to DOER by November 7, 2022, as part of our grant application.

There was consensus that we ought to contact a solar installer to see if new legislation (the federal Inflation Reduction Act) will enable them to take on municipal projects. Peter Murkett will ask if Mike Vine, owner of a company which has a solar field in Hinsdale, can offer support as a developer to our community solar prospect, and also talk to Shawn Tryon, to see if he can offer a letter of support for rooftop solar at the Firehouse.

It was noted that UMass Clean Energy Extension expects to deliver their report by May 2023.

After a brief review, minutes of the October 12 meeting were approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter Murkett, Chairperson
Renewable Energy Working Group
By Peter Grealish