

## **Minutes of the Monterey REWG 11/16/22**

The Renewable Energy Working Group met on November 16, 2022, at Monterey Community Center, 468 Main Road, Monterey, MA 01245, and over Zoom.

Members Present in person: Peter Murkett, Rob Hoogs

Members Present remotely via Zoom: Chris Aidun, Peter Grealish, John Prusinski

Others present remotely via Zoom: Judy Eddy, grant writer; Jess Podesta, UMass Clean Energy Extension

Agenda:

Review and edit draft META Grant application

UMass Extension update

Review/amend/approve minutes

Meeting called to order at 6:13.

Members and Grantwriter Eddy reviewed a draft of the Municipal Energy Technical Assistance (META) grant application requesting \$15,000 for development of a Community Shared Solar project. We discussed the draft in detail and suggested edits. We delegated Chris Aidun to work with grant writer Judy Eddy to finalize the grant application for submission. Peter Murkett agreed to compile the five letters from ratepayers as well as the letter from the Monterey Fire Co. Peter also agreed to take charge of sending the final application to Justin Makuc, Chair of the Select Board for his approval and signature.

We then discussed the separate matter of hiring a consultant under the ARPA funding approved by the Select Board. The potential consultant we have talked with informally, Beacon Integrated Solutions, is an approved state-listed consultant under the CommBuys system. Peter reported that he met with Town Administrator Melissa Noe and she said we could choose to hire such a listed consultant without having to go through a RFP procurement process. This will be discussed at the next REWG meeting.

We voted to authorize Peter Murkett to contact Gould Farm to inquire about their potential interest in hosting a solar energy project.

Our next meeting is tentatively be scheduled for Thursday, December 8, at 6:00 p.m. The date and location will be confirmed later.

Jess Podesta, the UMass project member, listened in to our discussion, but we did not get into a more detailed discussion with her about the UMass project.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Hoogs

Monterey Renewable Energy Working Group