

Town of Acton

Green Advisory Board

3 Members Needed for a Quorum

MEETING MINUTES

Place: Conference Room Memorial Library, 2nd floor

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Date: Monday, March 12, 2012

Present: Dennis Loria, David Keene, Chris Schaffner, John Murray Staff, Lili Early Recording Secretary, Kate Crosby Green Advisor to the Schools

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Dennis L. called the meeting to order at 6:45 PM.

1. Approval of the Meeting Minutes held on 03/05/2012 – Dennis Loria

Dennis L. asked for a voice vote to approve the minutes of 03/05/2012.

The motion was made by Chris S. and seconded by David K. The vote was announced UNANIMOUS.

2. Solarize MASS Update – Chris Schaffner – 10 min.

Chris S. spoke briefly with Jim Snyder-Grant to receive information on how many towns will be selected. Chris S. will fill out an application to explain our plan and he hopes that we will be selected for the program. The State has an agreement with the suppliers. Dennis L. wanted to know if there is a different procedure for residents and businesses. Chris S. explained that they are all using SRECS. He also mentioned that there are more companies on the market that are providing similar services. Bruce F. volunteered to help Chris S.

Chris S. also mentioned that he needs a statement of commitment from the Town. John M. will be the permanent representative for this project.

3. Update on 5-year plan – Eric Hudson – 30 min.

Kate talked to Robert Keene and there is no update at this moment. Robert has a lot of new data to insert in the 5-year plan, which he received from the Towns and the Schools.

4. Energy Efficiency Fund – FinCom/Town Meeting Presentation – Dennis Loria – 30 min.

John M. informed the Board that FinCom allowed the GAB to do a presentation on March 27th and added that the article has been approved, but the feedback was "Why does the article needs to be changed?". Dennis L. wanted to know if the Board still has to speak at the FinCom meeting. John M. recommended that it would be advantageous to attend the meeting in preparation of the Annual Town Meeting, which is starting on April 2nd. John will email the Annual Town Meeting dates after the Board of Selectmen has decided on the agenda. Dennis L. thought it to be worthwhile to attend as a practice run. The Board agreed to have a private practice run before the Annual Meeting and not to give a presentation at FinCom. David K. will give the presentation at the Annual Town Meeting.

John M. asked the Board if they were interested in having the Article, and wondered if the Board would like to put the Article on the Board of Selectmen's consent agenda. David K. finds that the creation of the fund is most important and wants to go ahead with the Article rather than on consent. The other Board members agreed with David K.

Dennis L. asked how much money can we get from Town Meeting. Chris S. responded, whatever is appropriated and the Town Manager has to approve it. John M. explained how an Enterprise Fund works and also the process of an Article change. Dennis L. asked which projects we are looking to fund. John M. responded that the Town hasn't decided yet how to spend the 80K, 40 from Town + 40 from NSTAR. Dennis L. wanted to know when we are going to get the NSTAR funds. John M. informed the Board that it will be in our bank account by April 30th and we need to meet with NSTAR to decide together which projects we should work on. John continued saying that the incentive is 25 cents KWH. Dennis L. wanted also to know if the enterprise fund is for both, the Town and the School. John M. added it is unknown and he needs to talk to counsel about this first. Dennis L. is uncomfortable that Dean Charter didn't have projects that qualified or could be done immediately. John M. responded that retro-commissioning from the Public Safety Building and the Sewer Treatment facility has happened.

5. Thermal Imaging Program Update – David Keene - 15 min.

David K. is communicating with Jim Snyder-Grant and will contact him to discuss the next steps.

6. Nominee of a Full Member to Replace Chris Schaffner – 15 min.

David K. mentioned that one Associate member expressed an interest in becoming a Full member. In addition, he wanted to know how it works. John M. explained that the number of Associate members is limited by BoS appointments.. The Board has to consist of 3 Associates and 5 Full members. Dennis L. wondered if we need to advertise.

John M. asked the Board's opinion if an Associate member has enough experience after attending the meetings for one year to become a Full member. David K. finds that an Associate member should be given the opportunity to become a Full member.

The other question was: Does Manisha Tyagi, an Associate member, has an interest to become a Full member? Since Manisha was not present at the meeting, Dennis L. wants to give her the opportunity to choose. David K. will call or email Manisha and ask her. He added that Bruce F. has an interest to become a Full member.

7. Agenda Items to be Discussed at the Next Meeting – 15 min. – All

Update on 5-Year Plan
Solarize MASS Update
Enterprise Energy Fund
Thermal Imaging Program Update
Update on Nominee of a Full Member to Replace Chris Schaffner

Dennis L. asked for a voice vote to adjourn the meeting.

The motion was made by Chris S. and seconded by David K. The vote was announced UNANIMOUS.

The meeting adjourned at 8:37p.m.

Future Meeting Schedule

Meetings are to be held in the Conference Room of Memorial Library and will begin at 6:30 PM -unless otherwise noted

2012

Mon April 9	Conference Room Memorial Library, 2 nd floor
Mon May 14	Conference Room Memorial Library, 2 nd floor
Mon June 11	Conference Room Memorial Library, 2 nd floor
Mon July 9	Conference Room Memorial Library, 2 nd floor

Mon Aug 20
Mon Sept 17
Mon Oct 15
Mon Nov 19
Mon Dec 10

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Rita J. Early
Recording Secretary

Dennis L. Lora
Chairman, Green Advisory Board
4/9/12
Date