



**GREEN ADVISORY BOARD
AGENDA**

**JUNE 1, 2015
6:30 PM**

**ACTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY - CONFERENCE ROOM
486 MAIN STREET**

- Community Solar Presentation
- Discuss Draft Charge Amendment
- Solar Landfill kWh Production Report
- Nominate Chairperson & Vice Chair
- Approve Minutes 3/2/15 & 5/4/15
- Farewell to Dean
- *Recycle & Pay As You Throw - meeting conflict with Department of Public Works Director - tabled to future meeting*



GREEN ADVISORY BOARD

MINUTES

JUNE 1, 2015

6:30 PM

ACTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY - CONFERENCE ROOM
486 MAIN STREET

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dennis Loria, Cameren Cousins, Eric Hudson

ASSOCIATE MEMBER: Padamaja Kuchimanchi

MUNICIPAL PROPERTIES DIRECTOR: Dean Charter

SELECTMAN LIAISON: Peter Berry

CONSERVATION ANYLIST: Pamela Cady

GREEN ADVISOR TO THE SCHOOLS: Kate Crosby (6:45)

RECORDING SECRETARY: Andrea Ristine

VISITORS: Jill Appel

Link to documents numbered on this agenda:

<http://doc.acton-ma.gov/dsweb/View/Collection-6845>

6:35 Mr. Loria called the meeting to order.

Community Solar Presentation – Jill Appel lives in Concord

Ms. Appel stated that she is the Community Programs Director at Direct Energy Solar (formerly Astrum Solar), the former Chairperson on Concord's Sustainable Energy Committee (CSEC) and was the Solar Coach for Concord's 2013 Solar Challenge and leveraged Solarize Mass for the Town of Concord. She is a solar consultant, promoted and helped run community programs. Ms. Crosby had encouraged her to contact the Green Advisory Board (GAB). Both Federal and State incentive credits available. She feels that Acton still has good solar potential. The Town of Concord did not solicit for Request for Proposals (RFP), no town funds were expended. The Town of Boxborough and Littleton recently issued an RFP based on a State RFP.

Mr. Charter recalled that Acton was involved in endorsing the previous program since the State already had a program in place, no Town funds were expended and there

was no agreement made with a vendor, although there was a modest amount of Town funds used towards reimbursement of printing and signage. If the Town was to get involved it would have to go through the proper procurement process.

Ms. Appel stated that she does have a sample contract used by Boxborough/Littleton; Acton would need to strategize on how a new program would be run.

Mr. Loria feels that it is worth investigating and would be willing to take the initial step in an investigation.

Mr. Charter noted that one possibility could be that the Town Manager could hire an agent/consultant (like Ms. Appel) to get it moving, work with volunteers, write and advocate an RFP. If hired, an agent cannot be affiliated with the company awarded in an RFP; funds from the Green Advisory Board (GAB) budget could cover hiring a consultant.

7:33 Draft Charge Amendment Discussion

Draft Charge Amendment: <http://doc.acton-ma.gov/dsweb/Get/Document-49851/Draft%20GAB%20Charge%2003-24-2015.pdf>

Ms. Cousins noted that the last GAB meeting grappled with a scope of topics that the GAB could assist the town with suggesting helping the Town in efforts in recycling.

Mr. Berry noted that the Town might have to go to the School Committee with regards to part of the proposed draft charge amendment. The Water District is a separate entity from the Town's municipal government. There is an active Water Resources Advisory Committee that focuses on the long-term protection of Acton's water resources, public outreach and education. He suggested keeping the charge more general in being "environmentally sound" without specific focus.

Mr. Charter noted that the Transfer Station and the Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) are funded and operated through enterprise funds and the WWTP is operated by Woodard & Curran.

Ms. Crosby noted that ICLEI (International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives) is an international association of local governments and national and regional local government organizations that have made a commitment to sustainable development and initiated the Sustainability Tools for Assessing and Rating Communities (STAR) program.

Ms. Cousins stated that she would like the GAB to advocate for other groups not just pigeon-hole "energy".

Solar Landfill kWh Production Report (010)

Mr. Charter provided a 12 month breakdown by building for electricity consumption and solar production and reported that the Town's solar facility is producing 90% of what it consumes in Town municipal buildings.

Nominate Chairperson & Vice Chair – tabled until a future meeting

Minutes

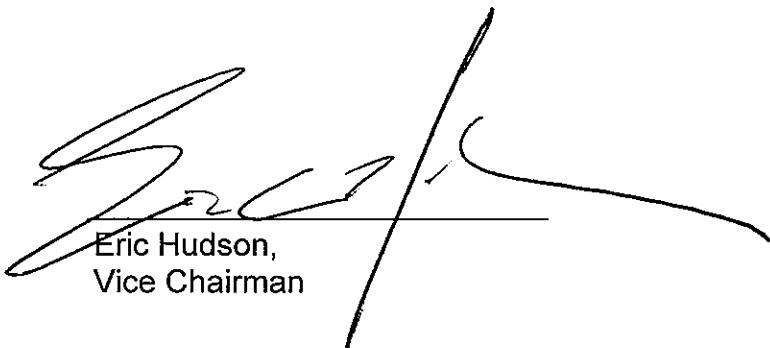
Mr. Hudson moved to approve the minutes for March 2, 2015, Ms. Cousins 2nd; unanimous.

Ms. Cousins moved to approve the minutes for May 4, 2015, Mr. Loria 2nd; unanimous.

Farewell to Dean Charter

The GAB thanked Mr. Charter for his guidance and support for the past several years as staff support and wished him luck with the future.

8:50 Meeting adjourned.



Eric Hudson,
Vice Chairman

ahr.gab.minutes.2015