

Minutes of OLEC Meeting

3 April 2007

7:30 PM, Room 121 Town Hall.

Present: M. Graetz, G. Green, H. Millett , B. Kosicki

1. The minutes for the 6 March 2007 meeting were accepted.
2. There is a CPA project to install new sports lighting around the ABRHS baseball diamond and tennis courts. At least one resident nearby is concerned about the effect of these lights on the surrounding homes. An OLEC member will ask at TM how the lights will be installed to mitigate these concerns.
3. OLEC has agreed to give a star party for the Acton Garden Club. Arrangements have been made to use NARA for the evening of April 23, with cloud dates of April 24 and 25. BK, HM, Steven Feinstein and GG plan to attend. We also expect several other telescopes from other town residents. About 50 people are expected to attend. BK will send out notice to all participants to organize the event.
4. On Friday, March 23, OLEC helped a group of High School students at their request to make measurements of light levels at the High School parking lot. The students are involved in an inter-school competition to propose energy savings that might be undertaken in their town. They thought that the parking lot looked very bright and might be a candidate for light (and electricity) reduction. We found that the parking lot is about 6.5x more bright than minimum recommendations of the Illuminating Engineering Society NA. We also found that the shields on the row of lights along Captain Brown's Lane are installed backwards, and therefore light is projected towards the houses rather than the parking lot. We have written a report on these measurements and sent them to the students, who plan to talk with J.D.Head.
5. Streetlight project. OLEC met with Scott Edwards of LELD and Dean on 20 March. Scott then provided cost information to do a proposed mass replacement of our lights. We have also asked him if LELD would still be willing to do a lease-buyback of the lights. We are also arranging a meeting with NSTAR to see whether Acton would be eligible for a partial rebate of a streetlight replacement.
6. Earth Day is April 28 at St. Matthew's Church again. HM, GG, and BK all are planning to support this function. One idea is to present the Streetlight Project to the people there to get feedback. We should also advertise our open spot for Associate Member. Hart Millett will contact his neighbor who might be a candidate.
7. Next meeting 8 May.