



**GREEN ADVISORY BOARD
MARCH 10, 2014
MINUTES**

**ACTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY
486 MAIN STREET - CONFERENCE ROOM
6:30 PM**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bruce Friedman, Mary Smith, Padamaja Kuchimanchi

ENERGY CONSERVATION ANALYST: Pamela Cady

GREEN ADVISOR TO THE SCHOOLS: Kate Crosby

RECORDING SECRETARY: Andrea Ristine

VISITOR: Renato Nakagomi

6:55 Meeting called to order.

Behavioral Modification Program Update

Ms. Cady reported that she had a meeting with team leaders regarding behavioral modification, buildings that responded with team members are from Town Hall, Cemetery, 468 Main Street, West Acton Citizens' Library and the Police Department. The suggested incentive was to award a barbeque in the summer but has changed to a pizza party due to the town's team building day barbeque. The fleece blankets with the Town's seal embroidered on them have been distributed to all current town employees. It is hoped these will help reduce heating costs and fire hazards from the use of space heaters. Posters with tips on different suggestions for saving more energy were shown to the Board. We hope to see a change in energy consumption with next month's billing cycle.

Discuss Department of Energy Resources Grant Round

Ms. Cady reported that she has met with a representative from Guardian Energy, a project expediter for by NStar, and is now in the process of looking at potential projects to submit on the next grant round. Three potential Town projects have been identified so far. One is the installation of a lighting control management system at the Memorial Library which would have a net cost of approximately \$75,000 after incentives and rebates and a five year payback. Cost savings for library project are expected to be >\$16,000 in the first year. Replacing the variable frequency drives on the two most heavily used pump stations associated with the Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP); the

combined net cost would be approximately \$45,500 with an eight to thirteen year payback. The third potential project would be purchasing anti-idle technology for police cruisers. Mr. Nakagomi noted that the Town should get an even better payback when factoring in reduced maintenance and replacement costs for the pumps.

Ms. Crosby noted that a new boiler is needed at the Junior High. Exhaust fans at the Junior High also need to be addressed as they are not managed with any technology, some don't work at all and others run 24/7; if these could be managed the uni-vents might not have to work/function as much. The school's Information Technology closet has a Liebert and split systems that might be able to be replaced with more efficient systems. Exterior lighting at the three smaller schools could be changed to light emitting diodes (LEDs). Duct work at Junior High and the High School needs re-insulating but a long payback period is predicted. Also, Peregrine, Inc. has developed circuit level metering (monitoring) which could provide an energy reduction for HVAC and/or lighting by providing more detailed information about equipment running when not needed.

Ms. Cady noted that a list of potential grant projects can be submitted (town & school) and the State will choose which ones they will fund.

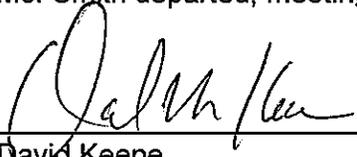
Ms. Crosby reviewed the required criteria for the grant submittals issued by the Department of Energy Resources (DOER). Ms. Crosby mentioned the Sapphire program - state gateway program for various grants. Another potential project for the grant is to replace the high school's heating system for the indoor pool; currently it is being heated by the boiler when it is producing heat and then supplemented with electric heaters when the boiler is off. The HS pool used to be heated by the boiler in the summer, which had a lot of transmission losses b/c the boiler is far away from the pool. That is no longer the case, as the pool is now heated in the summertime by electricity. Other options mentioned for HS pool were heat pump hot water heater. Ms. Smith said she's got contacts at NSTAR that are very eager to give away money for combined heat and power projects. Ms. Cady said she had spoken with a CHP engineer in Pennsylvania whose company has many projects in New England. He estimated about \$25,000/year savings and a 5.5 year payback period for a 30kW CHP system which he called a 'perfect match' for the high school pool. He also said that if we chose to convert it to burn biogas in the future, the conversion would cost about \$3,000. Concerns were raised about transporting the biogas from the WWTP to the school. It is a larger project because it would require converting the WWTP as well.

Discuss Stretch Code & Comments to DOER

Mr. Friedman reported that the Board needs to submit comments before the end of March regarding the new stretch code and will need to meet again before the next scheduled meeting in April.

It was agreed that the Board will schedule another meeting for March 26 to address remaining agenda items, comment letter to be send to DOER regarding Stretch Code and finalize which projects will be submitted for the competitive grant.

8:02 Ms. Smith departed, meeting was adjourned with a lack of quorum.



David Keene
Chair

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1. Update - Behavioral Modification Program
2. Discuss - Department of Energy Resources Grant Round
3. Discuss - Stretch Code & Comments to the Department of Energy Resources
4. Discuss - Associate Member
5. Discuss - Energy Conservation Measures

Next meeting: March 26