

NOTES
DEDHAM SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
November 4, 2013

Present: Richard McGuinness (RM), Leigh Hafrey (LH), Jon Briggs (JB), Deb Harrison (DH), Chuck Kabat (CK), Carol Hills (CH), Virginia LeClair (VL),

Guests: Michael Cucchiara, Senior Regional Outreach Manager with Next Step Living

JB opened the meeting of November 4, 2013.

Approval of Minutes

CK made a motion to accept the minutes of September 9, 2013. RM second. All in favor.

Update from Next Step Living on Weatherization and Solar Program

Michael Cucchiara, Senior Regional Outreach Manager with Next Step Living reviewed the past year's solar and weatherization program and presented on ideas for the future. He stated that the Dedham Solar Challenge really helped to bring in not only more weatherization work, but also drove up interest in solar. In his presentation he outlined that as of October 2013, 21 solar installations had been installed in Dedham. Prior to the start of this program, there were only 3 installations within the Town, showing its effectiveness.

Since the start of this program NSL has scheduled 595 weatherization assessments and completed 376, with 100 residents moving forward with the recommendations outlined in the audit. These numbers M. Cucchiara hopes to improve going forward.

As a result of solar installations, weatherization work completed and heat pumps installed, which get residents off of oil, the Town has saved in GHG reduction equivalent 35,000 gallons of gasoline and almost 800 barrels of oil combined. This is a big impact that will continue to be realized each year.

M. Cucchiara spoke about the incentive program for solar in which \$250 for every solar installation went to the Dedham Grows program. Since the start of this partnership with NSL in 2012 they have helped to raise over \$5,250.00 for Dedham Sustainability Initiatives.

The Committee applauded NSL for their great work in getting the word out about the program. They talked about further outreach to the PTOs, Town mailings and canvassing. M. Cucchiara believes there are still 800 homes in Dedham that would be eligible for solar.

He will be presenting this update and the donation to Dedham Grows at the November 21st Board of Selectmen Meeting.

Green Fair Re-Cap

The Committee agreed that the Green Fair was a good event, but thought that their needed to be more signage to indicate that we were a separate event within the Cow Day event. VL suggested that we plan ahead next year and try to get a more prominent location either near the deeds for the cow or by the cow itself.

Styrofoam and Paper Recycling Event Re-cap

The next Styrofoam collection event will be held on December 28th. The Committee suggested advertising for this event now, so that residents have time to save up Styrofoam. CK suggested including event flyers in other events packaging, such as the Turkey Trot.

JB would like to set a recycling item day each year and thought holding it with the Town's Household Hazardous Waste day was a good idea. VL will confirm if it's a set date each year, such as the first Saturday in October.

Monthly Article

DH will write the next article on composting in time for Thanksgiving. The December article will be on Next Step Living and CK will write that article. January article would be on phantom electricity or "vampire energy".

Old/New Business

It was suggested to add Half Way Café to the SBN Green Business program

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned.

Next meeting scheduled for December 2nd.