

Natick Sustainability Committee Meeting

January 7, 2020

Meeting Minutes

In Attendance:

- Members: Leo Ryan, Carey Buttfield, David Mogolov, Alfredo Vargas
- Staff: Jillian Wilson Martin
- Guests: Richard Moon, Sasha Shyduroff, Nick Pandolfo, Raphael Herz, Kathy Dopp

Meeting called to order at 7PM

Storage-size Natick Program

- Raphael presented idea to reduce costs of batteries and increase adoption through group sale to residents, similar to Solarize Mass program
- Benefits to participating residents may include resiliency, revenue, TBD
- Committee asked questions about target audience and program structure
- Discussed if program would be limited to homes with solar or if it could be available to anyone
- MA utilities are now supposed to fund clean energy storage
- Next steps may include reaching out to MassCEC to see if they would be interested in piloting this type of program
- Team to further consider proposal and follow up with Raphael

Net Zero Planning Process

- Leo presented slides shared to date
- Goals and potential questions for community-wide survey discussed
- Jillian reviewed inventory methodology
- Kathy shared concerns regarding undercounting emissions from natural gas
- David explained plans for focus groups and role of Committee members

Renewable Natick Update (provided by Carey Buttfield)

- Shifting focus to aggregation's long term renewable energy content
- Attended presentation to BOS on potential aggregation policy
- Members are planning political engagement strategy
- Members working on a How to Talk to Your Kids About Climate Change workshop with Natick Public Schools
- Planning a Repair Cafe in conjunction with Clean Your Attic Day

South Natick Dam

- Town is completing sediment tests to determine feasibility of dam removal

Solarize Natick

- Faulty SunPower microinverters have been replaced in the majority of systems
- Town and Boston Solar prioritizing system replacements; will shift to actively advocating for loss compensation

Other Community Outreach

- Earth Day is on Sunday, April 26
- CYA Day is on Saturday, May 2
- Nick expects homeowner welcome kit to be ready for spring real estate market