

**Watertown Environment and Energy Efficiency Committee
Meeting Minutes March 20, 2017**

OPENING:

The March 20, 2017 meeting of *Watertown's Environment and Energy Efficiency Committee* (WE3C) was opened by Ed Lewis at 7:05pm in Town Hall's third floor conference room.

ATTENDANCE:

Committee Members & Guests (in alphabetical order)
Andrew Airasian
Charlies Bering
Richard Cohen
Sheila Falcey
Meredith Fields – Committee Chair (newly elected)
Brian Hebeisen
Ken Mirvis – Committee Chair (Emeritus)
Lauri Murphy
Sean O'Hern
Jeanne Trubek
Watertown Staff Liaison
Edward Lewis – Energy Manager
Guest Speakers
Patrick Roche - Energy Coordinator, Clean Energy Division, MAPC
Stefano Loretto – Business Development Director – Good Energy

AGENDA:

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Presentation / Q&A on Municipal Aggregation
3. Energy Manager Report
4. New Business

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1) Welcome and introductions:

In attendance was a mix of long term WE3C members, several people who have either applied to be on the Committee or have expressed an interest in joining along with guests from the Watertown Citizens for Peace, Justice and the Environment – Climate Change Group.

2) Presentation / Q&A on Municipal Aggregation:

- Patrick Roche - Energy Coordinator, Clean Energy Division, MAPC
- Stefano Loretto – Business Development Director – Good Energy

The Committee heartily thanks Mr. Roche and Mr. Loretto for their very comprehensive and interactive review of the Municipal Aggregation process, benefits and best practices.

The bulk of the meeting was devoted to this topic and the associated Q&A. Following is a very high level jump up of the presentation, for details please see the attached copy of the presentation provided by Mr. Roche.

Due to member community requests the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) Clean Energy Division has developed a program to assist communities to implement Municipal Aggregation.

Municipal Aggregation (aka. Community Choice Aggregation) allows residents, small businesses and non-profits the option to purchase electrical power under an aggregation (bulk purchase) plan. This provides volume purchasing power and can provide cost savings and price stability along with significantly greener energy than supplied from the utility.

Increasing the percentage of green power of Watertown's electrical supply would provide a significant reduction in the Town's carbon footprint. The MAPC's recommended program is specifically designed to facilitate increasing New England's renewable power generation.

Over 50 towns and cities in Mass have implemented or are in the process of implementing Community Choice Aggregation, including nearby cities/towns of Cambridge, Brookline, Dedham, Lexington, Melrose, Arlington, and Somerville.

Subscribers to Municipal Aggregation would continue to receive a single bill and service from Eversource. Municipal Aggregation is voluntary, residents can decline or can opt out at any time with no penalty.

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3) Energy Manager Report:

- Neighborhood Solar
 - Neighborhood Solar is a program run by a Watertown resident which allows households to utilize a local supplier to participate in a volume purchase for Solar PV installations. This program has been run successfully in the past and a new round will be opening soon. Representatives from Neighborhood Solar are scheduled to present program details at our April 24th WE3C meeting.
- LED Streetlight Retrofit Project Update – deferred to next meeting
- Senior Center “Lunch and Learn” Outreach update – deferred to next meeting
- Discussion on estimated GHG reduction per % of green energy Watertown utilizes – deferred to next meeting

4) New Business:

- Approval of Meeting Minutes
 - Minutes from the February 27th WE3C meeting were approved.
- WE3C Officer Nominations / Vote
 - Meredith Fields was nominated to the office of Committee Chair. The nomination was seconded and she was unanimously elected to be the Committee Chair.

5) Scheduled WE3C Meetings:

Unless otherwise noted meetings are held in the Town Hall 3rd floor conference room.

April 24th – 7:00PM (note – this meeting is scheduled on the 4th Monday of the month due to Patriots Day falling on the third Monday.)

May 15th - 7:00PM

June 19th – 7:00PM

The public is welcome at all meetings.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:48pm.

Minutes submitted by: Edward Lewis, March 27, 2017