

## Community Shared Solar Brookline Working Group

### Minutes

10/14/2015, 6:00 pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor library, public health building

Jenny Fariborz,, David Lescohier, Werner Lohe, Willy Osborn, John Harris, Rob Daves, Garry McGonagill, Adam Marks, David Lowe, Suzette Abbot, John Harris

**Action Items:** Next Meeting; (2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday, **changed to Thursday this month only**, November 12th, 6:00 – 7:30 pm, Denny room on lowest level, public health building, 11 Peirce St.)

- Update about Yeloha.
- Meeting with Next Step Living regarding a preferred community directed PPA offering for Brookline
- Meeting with Sunbug to find out details about the enhanced coop model they are working on for the Carlisle project
- Contact with Brookline Audi dealer about their planned construction to find out possible interest in hosting a community shared solar facility on their planned building or display area (canopy)

#### **Tasks:**

- Review working group progress and discuss next steps.

#### **Updates**

Jenny Fariborz, working with Susan Martin has arranged a web page on the Climate Action Brookline website. The role of the web page currently is to provide an archive of the minutes of working meetings and possibly other files containing reference materials. Additional content is under development to provide an area containing information about the working group, answers to frequently asked questions, and descriptions of various models for community shared solar explaining their incentives and benefits.

<http://climateactionbrookline.org/how-to-cut-carbon/community-solar>

#### **Other discussion**

In various respects, since March, the working group has been in touch with or gathered information about:

- Village Power
- Coop Power
- Borego Solar
- NRG
- Clean Energy Collective
- Next Step Living
- Yeloha
- NexAmp
- Sunbug
- MassEnergy, New England Wind
- Solstice Initiative
- Viridian Energy
- ClearView Energy
- Newton Solar Challenge
- Route 128 industrial site, Waltham
- Hyde Park industrial site
- Brookline parking lots, Allendale Farm, Dexter School, etc.
- And others as well.

Based on exploration of the above, we discussed the following as possible ideas for development:

The aim is be able to follow up our forum at 2015 Climate Week with something sufficiently in place for implementation. We discussed a three track approach:

- A subscription model, easy in, easy out, less payback.
- A PPA offering, vetted, better terms, better deal, tiered pricing based on the community's level of participation, as Solarize. More commitment, better payback.
- A Coop member ownership model, greatest commitment, best payback including tax credits and SRECs.

Willy Osborn and David Lescohier will schedule meetings regarding the above and report in November.

In addition, we learned about and discussed the possible use of the Brookline Audi dealer site coupled with planned reconstruction. Rob Daves lives in the area and is a TMM. He will take the lead and include Werner Lowe and Willy Osborn if it seems a meeting would be worthwhile.

David Lescohier

**The next meeting will be on 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday (this month only), November 12th, 2015 at 6:00 – 7:30 PM in the Denny room, public health building, 11 Pierce Street. Group will review tasks identified under “Action Steps”.**