Meeting of Harwich Energy and Climate Action Committee

Small Meeting Room, Harwich Town Hall

Thursday, January 18, 2024

Present: Valerie Bell Chairperson

Jacqueline Pentz-Greene Vice-chairperson

Charlie Czech Member (remote)

Glenn Miemiec Member

Robert MacCready Finance Committee

Tom McNellis Eastham Climate Action Committee

John Boiney Eastham Climate Action Committee

Copy: Don Howell Select Board liaison

* The minutes from the December meeting were approved and will be posted on the towns website.
* Mr. McNellis and Mr. Boiney of the Eastham Climate Action Committee made a presentation on a Solar Energy Workshop that was held on October 28, 2023 in the town of Eastham. Key points of the presentation were as follows:

The Workshop was well received and well attended with just shy of 90 people attending. This was attributed to thorough planning (3 months) and the use of multiple forms of communication and advertising. It was noted that there was a feedback survey which showed that most people knew of the event through the website and email.

The purpose of the Workshop was to educate people on multiple aspects of solar energy and how people can save money and reduce energy dependance. This was done by having independent experts speak, a hands-on workshop and hearing firsthand from Eastham residents who are currently using solar and a solar/green home tour following the workshop.

The Workshop was held at the Eastham Town Library. It was noted that the library was extremely helpful in assisting the Workshop.

There were multiple partners contributing to the success of the workshop. These included Cape Light Compact, Friends of the Library, Self Reliance Coop, Chamber of Commerce, Cape Cod Climate Change Collaboration, DOER, Town of Eastham and Outer Cape CAC. Mr. McNellis pointed out that collaboration was critical for the success of the Workshop.

* Glenn Miemiec provided a brief update on installing a Electric Vehicle Charging Station in town. Specifically concerning the type of Charger the Committee should be recommending. The towns original application was for a level 2 charger which takes longer for the vehicle to become substantially charged. He recommended that we consider a level 3 charger that would substantially charge a vehicle in less than a half hour. The committee agreed to this change.
* Next Meeting is scheduled for February 15th, 2024.
* Meeting adjourned at 4:45 pm