

The October 30, 2018, meeting opened at 4:00. Present were Marj Wexler (Chair), Corinna Barnard, Emily Eyre, Robin Goldberg, and Pat Konecky. Also present was Stephanie Blumenthal of Sheffield.

Minutes of the 8/28/18 meeting were approved. Corinna agreed to take future minutes.

100% renewable energy and greenhouse gas inventory: We discussed beginning to take the steps that Oriana Reilly (Mass Climate Action Network) brought to us on 8/28/18. The aim would be to improve our municipal and residential energy use. Although it would be great to work on this when Juliette Haas can rejoin us, because she has the best grasp of the data involved, we need to get started regardless. Members in need of her data can make an appointment with her and ask for it. We can also use the internet to find Climate Action Plans created by other MA towns.

Berkshire Edge columns: Pat will work on the next article, on Mass Power Forward and the importance of replacing hydrocarbon-based energy with clean energy sources. The pending article on our "waste"line needs Juliette's data input. Whenever possible, we need articles that highlight what's going on in Egremont.

Stephanie Blumenthal, of Sheffield Saves, attended to ask if we would like to co-host an event on reducing and reusing, probably in 2019. This could entail inviting merchants to have a table to show off ways in which they are being green, such as plastic-free aisles. Other ideas: (1) introduce the idea of a tool-lending library, where folks could share tools that are rarely used, such as a posthole digger; (2) have people on hand who could fix small appliances. Response to all was very positive.

Stephanie also invited us to join her at a gettogether with Veronique Blanchard, the Western Mass Municipal Recycling Coordinator, on Dec 5, to talk about recycling and the Springfield MRF. Stephanie will email details.

Potential new solar bylaw: The Planning Board is discussing the possibility of requiring a special permit for ground-mounted residential installations. Roof installations would still be allowed by right. Members were concerned about the potential for limiting the use of this clean energy source. Marj will see if other towns have such a requirement.

Meeting adjourned 5:13 pm.

*Next meeting will be Tuesday, **November 13, 4:00 PM**, and it will focus on the Greenhouse Gas Inventory.*

Submitted by Marj Wexler, Sec'y