

NOTES
DEDHAM SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
January 6, 2014

Present: Jon Briggs (JB), Deb Harrison (DH), Chuck Kabat (CK), Carol Hills (CH), Virginia LeClair (VL),

Guests: Michael Cucchiara, Senior Regional Outreach Manager with Next Step Living

JB opened the meeting of January 6, 2014.

Approval of Minutes

CH made a motion to accept the minutes of November 4, 2013. CK second. All in favor.

Review proposed 2014 Weatherization and Solar Program with Next Step Living

Michael Cucchiara, Senior Regional Outreach Manager with Next Step Living reviewed the past year's solar and weatherization program and presented on ideas for the future. He stated that since 2012 more than 300 Dedham residents have had Mass Save Home Energy Assessments and more than 100 homes have completed weatherization work. Since November 2012 more than 20 homes have gone solar as part of the Dedham Solar Challenge. He stated that more could be done by targeting homes that heat with oil and electric. Last year they installed only 4 ductless mini split systems. Phase I would be to reach out to the homes on oil or electric and Phase II would be to reach out to Natural Gas customers. The ductless mini splits are great for additions or for those who want central AC.

The benefits of this system is that it can save up to 50% of home heating and cooling bills, it has room-by-room temperature control, is very quiet, and improves indoor air quality through filtered air circulation. Each homeowner that completes a free heating and cooling assessment during the scheduled time period would receive a \$50 gift card to Legacy Place and for each ductless mini split system installed by NSL, NSL will contribute \$100 towards the Town's future sustainability initiatives. The kick-off meeting for this program will be at Paradise Café in February.

Styrofoam Recycling Event Re-Cap, December 28th

The December 28th event was staffed by CK and MM. They reported that it was well attended with 18-20 yards of foam filling the 24 foot trailer. The Committee discussed holding two events next year – one in the spring and one in the fall to coincide with Household Hazardous Waste Day on October 4th. They brainstormed who to invite – Cradles to Crayons, Bay State Textiles, RefoamIt, ShredIt, Scrap Metal recycler. They would continue to hold the December Styrofoam only event to capture packaging materials from the holidays. The event next year will be held on 12/27/2014.

Old/New Business

The Committee, upon the recommendation of the Environmental Coordinator, has decided to withdrawal their membership from ICLEI given that the town now uses the DOER Mass Energy Insight software to benchmark energy usage. MEI is the required software to be used by DOER for Green Community reporting. The Committee would like to see if they could repurpose those funds for events run by the group.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned.

