

**Sudbury, MA, Energy and Sustainability Green Ribbon Committee
Meeting Minutes November 16, 2010**

OPENING:

The November 16, 2010 meeting of Sudbury’s *Energy and Sustainability Green Ribbon Committee* was opened by Chairman Bill Braun at 7:35 p.m. at the Town of Sudbury DPW Building Conference Room.

ATTENDANCE:

Committee Members	Attending
Rami Alwan	X
Jeffrey S. Beeler, Vice Chairman, Sudbury School Committee	X
William G. Braun – Chairman, Energy and Sustainability Green Ribbon Committee	X
Dean Holden	
Edward Lewis	X
Robert Morrison	X
Mark Sevier	X
Michael E. Melnick, Co-Chairman, Sudbury Permanent Building Committee	X
Building Inspector, Town of Sudbury	
James Kelly	X
Guests	
Brad Hunter – Nexamp, Commercial Sales Manager	X

Agenda:

- 1. Nexamp presentation and discussion**
- 2. Review and approval of meeting minutes**
- 3. New committee members**
- 4. EECBG update**
- 5. Noyes Green Repair update**
- 6. Green Community Status & Plans**
 - a. Status of funds**
 - b. Action plan elements**
- 7. Capital budget requests**
- 8. Concord/Wayland joint meeting**
- 9. Other Business?**

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1. Nexamp presentation and discussion

Sudbury has been contacted by several clean energy companies that are interested in reviewing what they could offer to help the town reduce energy consumption and costs. The Energy Committee is meeting with viable companies to gain a better understanding of specific goods and services available that will allow the committee to make an informed recommendation to the town on what might be beneficial to explore further.

The committee met with Brad Hunter, Commercial Sales Manager at *Nexamp Energy and Carbon Solutions*.

Brad provided a company overview along with a synopsis of their alternate / renewable energy activities including municipal Power Purchase Agreements (PPA). Following are notes recorded from our round table discussion - this should be considered preliminary information designed to help educate the Energy Committee with *Nexamp* offerings.

Nexamp is a clean energy advisory services and turnkey solutions company based in North Andover. They analyze, design, build, and maintain clean energy projects that reduce energy costs and carbon emissions for business and government. The company employs 70 people with about half fully dedicated to solar projects.

They have designed, developed and installed multiple solar projects with about 10 MW of solar PV currently operating in New England. This includes the 1 megawatt PV installation (4,700 panels) at National Grid's distribution center in Northbridge, MA which is currently the largest operating PV facility in Massachusetts. (some larger installations are slated to come online in the near future)

Nexamp has experience working with municipalities for both purchased and PPA systems. These include several installations in Acton, Northampton and Lowell and they have been contracted by the State of Massachusetts to install 4.1 megawatts of PV at 12 public water and wastewater treatment facilities. The state projects are funded with approximately \$20 million in federal ARRA funds and are expected to be completed by July 2011. They include facilities in Ashland, Hyannis, Chelmsford, Easton, Fairhaven, Falmouth, Holden, Marlborough, Blackstone/Millbury, East Freetown, Pittsfield and Townsend. This represents the states' largest-ever award for solar installations at public facilities.

Nexamp is a fully integrated supplier of PPA's so they can manage the entire project including the system design, procurement, financing and operation / maintenance. They have a financing division they work with along with outside investors depending on the project.

Sudbury's closed and capped landfill was discussed as a possible PPA site. *Nexamp* believes a 1 MW or larger array could be situated there and discussed at a high level. In this example their pricing target for the electricity generated was about 75% of what Sudbury is currently paying.

Although they have some flexibility with terms they typically quote PPA's with a 20 year term and a 10 year renewal option. At the end of the contract the host community can renew the agreement, purchase the PV system at fair market value or have the system removed at no

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charge. The PPA *Nexamp* discussed could be available at no capital or operational cost to the town and the town could purchase electricity at a significant discount.

Nexamp has a significant backlog and are selective with projects they can / will quote on going forward. It was suggested that request for proposals/quotes on well defined projects that have passed some initial feasibility milestones (i.e. town acceptance, preliminary permitting) are most favorably received.

The Energy and Sustainability Committee wishes to thank Brad Hunter for his time and informative discussion

2. Review and approval of meeting minutes

Minutes from the October 19th meeting were unanimously approved.

3. New committee members

Applications and background information on three candidates for the open Energy Committee vacancy were reviewed. The Energy Committee unanimously agreed to recommend the Selectmen appoint Jennifer Dudgeon. Jennifer has significant experience in the renewable energy field and the committee feels her skill set will be very helpful and she will be a welcome addition to the committee.

The committee is very pleased to have additional applicants with interest in energy related activities and discussed looking into having associate members or expanding the committee.

Please note - all the energy committee meetings are open to the public (meeting locations & dates are posted on the town website) and any interested person is welcome to attend.

4. EECBG update

After the town / PBC reviewed the bid packages for the two components of the Fairbank Solar project contracts were awarded to *Ostrow Electric Co* in Worcester for the PV side and to *LittleFoot Energy* of Waltham for the solar thermal side.

As the bids and the building structures were being evaluated some end of useful life issues and some high gain energy conservation measures have been uncovered and the town is working to correct and improve before the solar work is to be done. Preliminary schedule calls for the roof repair / replacement / insulation to be complete in early spring and the solar project will commence after that.

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5. Noyes MSBA SoI Update

Energy efficiency and building renovation projects (potential projects include; roof insulation, window replacement, boiler upgrade/replacement and improved controls) for the Noyes school have been submitted to *Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA)* for possible funding assistance. The early indications are positive for MSBA help in funding these high gain projects. The Energy Committee has done a high level energy evaluation of the Noyes School along with reviewing a State funded energy audit and the Committee strongly supports the energy conservation aspects of the renovations.

The committee will continue to investigate if additional utility rebates (National Grid and NSTAR) for energy conservation measures may be available.

6. Green Community Status & Plans

- a. Status of funds – actual fund disbursement is in process – the town has received a contract from the State committing the funds.
- b. Action plan – next steps
 - i. The School lighting upgrades are to be the first projects utilizing the Green Community grants. The upgrades will be handled by NSTAR under Sudbury school and town supervision. The lighting projects are expected to be completed by year end. It should be noted that NSTAR energy efficiency rebates are being applied to these and will pay approximately half the cost of the upgrades – basically doubling the grant money applied.

ACTION: Bill / Jeff / Jim to coordinate these projects thru NSTAR and our schools.

7. Capital budget requests

High gain energy efficiency projects were discussed – the air to air heat recovery unit at Fairbank and controls for the Library are being evaluated as potential projects.

8. Concord/Wayland joint meeting – tabled

9. Other Business:

Noyes solar update

The Noyes PV solar panels have been installed, the electrical hook-up has been completed and the PV array is generating electricity! This is the first municipal PV installation in Sudbury and it has already generated a couple hundred KW of power and offset 260 lbs of CO₂.

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The output of the Noyes PV array can be viewed by clicking on the following link:

http://www.solrenview.com/cgi-bin/CGIhandler.cgi?&sort=pvi_IDs&cond=site_ID=530

Currently Scheduled Meetings: (DPW Building Conference room starting at 7:30 p.m.)

- December 16st, 2010
- January 18th, 2011
- February 15th, 2011
- March 15th, 2011

Adjournment:

- The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:42 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Edward Lewis, November 22, 2010