

REAC Minutes 4/2/14

Present: Chris, John, Barb, Pete L., Kimberly, Russ (Town Council), Marcus (Community Member)

Approve Last Meeting Minutes—March Meeting Minutes were approved unanimously

Electric Car Update—the Town is now leasing an all electric Nissan Leaf. It is going great. Tomorrow Kimberly will take it to a conference in Augusta.

Green Ribbon Report—Barb reported on her and Kimberly's work to review the Green Ribbon Report. The consensus was that while the Green Ribbon Report has powerful recommendations for improving Falmouth's environmental efforts, we need to create a more measurable, step by step document to guide us. Barb and Kimberly sorted the recommendations by which they were being addressed by. Russ suggested that many of the components are being covered in elements of the Comprehensive Plan, including land-use and transportation. We reviewed the components that REAC plans to lead on.

Energy Plan Outline—The group decided upon an outline for the Energy Plan that there would be an introduction, energy inventory, goals (including the Mayor's Agreement's 2% reduction in CO2 equivalents) and high priority recommendations.

Plastic Bag Update—the group working on reusable bag reform presented to the Ordinance Committee. Their presentation was received with many questions, and some skepticism about whether our selected ordinance would move forward. Russ suggested that the ordinance would be discussed by the Council before it moved forward in any other way. He suggested that he may be able to get it on the agenda by the end of the month. The committee also suggested many steps that we could take to move the project forward, with or without the Council. These ideas include involving students, talking with the Hannaford in Portland about their distribution of reusable bags. We will wait for a response by Council.

Community Solar—Marcus, Falmouth resident is interested in a community solar farm. He lacks adequate solar potential at his residence. He wants to be actively involved in any community solar discussion that happens in the future.