

PEC Minutes 1/22/2014

January 22, 2014, 11AM Town Office

Present: Nancy Mogielnicki, Michael O'Leary

Discussed PR for upcoming Button Up workshop Feb 19th. Divided items on task list. PR materials almost complete: Press release, short announcement for list serves, Energy Star poster, Local Plainfield poster.

Discussed Town Garage Solar project. Information from Terry Donaghue suggests that third party net-metering issue may be workable. Decided to discuss at upcoming PEC meeting to be sure that we understand finances and that we all agree about whether or not there is a need to ask for bids; plan to discuss with Selectboard sometime after Town Meeting.

At 1 PM, Sally Fishburn arrived to begin her assessment of the Town Office windows. Ms. Fishburn gathered data about the building and the windows and proceeded to remove storm windows and trim to evaluate construction and weight pockets. Photographs of interior and exterior were taken. Ms. Fishburn left at 4:30 and will prepare a written report which can be used for grant proposals. Her work will be paid for with a \$500 grant from the New England Grassroots Environment Fund.

The PEC is scheduled to meet with representatives of Vital Communities and the Town of Cornish on Jan 23, 2014 at 5 PM, Plainfield Library to discuss the Solarize Cornish-Plainfield project.

January 23, 2014, Plainfield Library

Present: Michael O'Leary, Ron Eberhardt, Nancy Mogielnicki with Vital Communities and Town of Cornish individuals.

Discussed timeline and respective tasks for Solarize Cornish-Plainfield. Decision

to hold “Launch” meeting at Plainfield School (if possible) on an evening in the week after Town Meeting (March 15).

Following Solarize meeting, Nancy, Mike and Ron met with Nancy Norwalk, Director of Plainfield Library, to discuss the Library’s interest in installing air conditioning, especially to be a “Cool Space” in times of intense heat. Our informal recommendations were

1. Do not install air conditioning - or even infrastructure for air conditioning - in downstairs space as it will probably not be necessary. Monitor temperatures down there this year - first year of use.
2. Heat pump used for air conditioning would be expensive and redundant for heating as there is heating system in place.
3. Consider using natural cooling more effectively by regulating air flow during the day (some windows open, some closed, depending on prevailing breeze and sun) and open windows at night (need to deal with security issues).