

MONTAGUE ENERGY & SOLAR PLANNING COMMITTEES JOINT MEETING
Minutes Tuesday Oct. 10, 2023, 3 PM to 4:30 PM

Designate facilitator and scribe 3:20 PM: Sally Pick Facilitator, Tim Van Egmond Scribe

Attending: Pam Hanold, Tim Van Egmond, Sally Pick, Jason Burbank by speakerphone.

Objective: Develop a 1-2 page summary of the draft Solar Energy Plan developed for the town by the U. Mass. Clean Energy Extension. Something to generate interest and encourage engagement from the relevant town committees, Select Board, Department Heads, stakeholders.

Discussion on how to best approach. Is there information that we could make available that would facilitate getting solar? List of solar installers?

Go over concepts of solar, ownership of solar, ask how we can move forward on different levels (residential, commercial).

Costs, credits and rebates, payback periods. Ownership models, community solar, PPAs.

Jason thought that solar forum wouldn't have a lot of value for residents, but would for town committees, boards and department heads.

When to hold? Late afternoon when town has extended hours? Wednesday when open to 6:30, possibly have 5-6:30 PM. Presented by Clean Energy Extension, guided by what we say is needed.

Action item: check if Extension has set presentation, or have flexibility. What are her recommendations? Examples from other towns? Sally will ask Zara, faculty member with extension .

Sally prefers oom rather than in person meeting. Advantage of being recorded, people will be able to view in future.