

Minutes - LC Energy Futures Task Force
Thursday, February 1, 2024

Present - Tom Van Pelt, Lisa Brookfield, Peter Walcott, Joe DeFors, Courtney Hessell, Russ Packard, Steve Ruddell, Kama Ross, Melinda Lautner

Meeting Called to order 9:35 am by Chair Joe DeFors

1 - Some confusion over start times. Reaffirmed with group that Firm 9:30 am will be standard start.

2 - Discussion of Solar Array MPSC grant proposal. Joe to appear at Tuesday, Feb. 13th 9:30 am at Executive BOC meeting to present update on this project. We will be seeking 6 informed citizens to provide public comment. Welcome Task Force members to attend, some will be invited to speak during public comment. We do not want to inundate the BOC or audience with too many speakers, being respectful of other items on the agenda.

3 - Educational program reminder: Tuesday, Feb. 20, 3-5 pm Frank Seipker, COO with Cherryland Electric speaking about how the electric grid works.

4 - Thursday, March 14, 10:30 am - Leelanau Energy presentation at their regular meeting, Harvest Energy providing speaker on Solar 101, how solar works.

5 - Monday, April 22, 3-5 pm Earth Day presentation panel on Microplastics on the land, air and water. Kama organizing. Looking for a moderator.

6 - May and July Leelanau Energy presentations are planned, more information to come.

7 - Committee updates

- Energy Efficiency - Working with Leland Public Schools with many aspects of their application To certify as a Green School
- Second news article for the Leelanau County Senior Services newsletter mailed every other month. Follow-up with more information about LED lights and Energy star appliances. Coming out the first week of March
- Clean Energy - grant focused until it is submitted on Feb. 21
- Clean Transportation - Cadillac has electric school buses, looking at the grants and maybe an informational program for a future workshop (school representatives, grant opportunities)
- Lois will ask Ashley Rudzinski, Climate & Environment Program Director with Groundwork's to come to our next meeting or the one in April to share her work with us and how we can collaborate.

Broke into working committees:

Energy Efficiency - Lois, Lisa, Peter and Kama

Kama will contact TCAPS for vocational education for energy efficiency student curriculum to add to the number of contractors available in the area. Ask Bronwyn about NMC past curriculum and possibility to return to the relationship that Leelanau Energy shared in the past.

Energy Efficiency kits through a grant for all our libraries and schools. Kids to take home to spark interest with parents to go into further.

Lisa will connect with Amy Hubbell at the Enterprise to ask about energy efficiency articles maybe on a regular basis or for specific issues.

Clean Transportation - Courtney, Melinda, Joe

Project workgroup (Steve R., Russ P., Tom V.) joining this conversation. collective interest in working with Tribes through Courtney (Environmental Dir.) to gauge their interest in chargers and possible conversion to partial use of electric busses. Created a list of questions and data needed, Courtney will work on this. Steve R. will coordinate with Courtney to move this initiative forward.