

*The March 7, 2017, meeting opened at 4:40.*

*Present were Marj Wexler (Chair), Emily Eyre, Juliette Haas, and Pat Konecky.*

**Minutes** of the 1/10/17 meeting were approved.

**Egremont Recycles:** Our 9th roadside trash pick-up will be on Earth Day, April 22. Juliette will contact Goodwill about coming that day instead of the usual 3rd Saturday of the month. The north firehouse is available after 5 pm, so we can have our thank-you pizza party then.

**Hampshire Power** representative Sinead Coleman is prepared to give a presentation about Hampshire Solar (Nexamp), which has solar projects in other Massachusetts towns that Egremonters could buy into. We decided that the timing isn't quite right for us, but we will start thinking of how to market this, including contacting people who wanted roof-top solar but couldn't get it.

**Sustainability Coordinator:** The Town has contacted Kiwanis about collecting returnables at the Transfer Station. If this happens, perhaps Green Committee members could be available to provide information about why this is a good idea.

Greenergy Solar will soon begin installing an 11.5 kW system on the roof of the Egremont Police Department. The Board of Selectmen approved funding the project with the remaining funds from the Green Communities grant (\$24K) with additional funding (\$17K) coming from the town's PD building funds. The town's portion will be paid back in 5 years from both the energy savings and SREC payments. SREC payments will go on for a total of 10 years at approximately \$1500 per year.

LED Streetlight offerings from National Grid: Pat will find out if there are hidden costs, and if the offer differentiates between streetlights owned and those leased from NatGrid.

**Climate Actions:** The People's Climate March in Washington will be April 29. Tour buses to DC will be available through 350.org, and Pat is helping arrange for vans and carpooling. She will also be arranging school buses to Boston for a sister march.

Jim Hansen of NASA will be talking about CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration at Williams tomorrow (3/8). See his TED talk: [www.ted.com/talks/james\\_hansen\\_why\\_i\\_must\\_speak\\_out\\_about\\_climate\\_change](http://www.ted.com/talks/james_hansen_why_i_must_speak_out_about_climate_change)

Thoughts of networking with other green committees in Berkshire County have led to a meeting of the Berkshire Green Committees Network, to be held at the Ralph Froio Center in Pittsfield on April 27. Lauren Gaherty of BRPC, and Nancy Nysten of CET, will be there. Pat will keep us updated.

350.org is helping with legislative campaigns and is working to help towns reach 100% renewable energy.

**Berkshire Aviation expansion:** Marj reported that there is community concern about the expansion planned at the Koladza airport on Rte 71. The airport borders the Green River, and increased air traffic will result in increased use of lead-based fuels, with potential contamination of the river and the aquifer below. We will be watching.

*Meeting adjourned 5:50 pm. Next meeting will be Thursday, **April 13, 4 PM.***

*Submitted by Marj Wexler, Sec'y.*