

*The February 20, 2018, meeting opened at 4:05.*

*Present were Marj Wexler (Chair), Corinna Barnard, Robin Goldberg, Juliette Haas, and Pat Konecky.*

**Minutes** of the 1/23/18 meeting were approved.

**Plastic Film Recycling Campaign:** Emily's recent Edge article on plastic film was most helpful. We hope it will educate residents. Meanwhile, we support the message: Reduce your use of plastic wherever you can and avoid single-use plastic.

**100% Renewable Energy campaign:** Some members will attend (carpool) the 100% Renewable Energy Summit at BCC on March 5 (sponsored by MassPIRG, 350.com, Environment Mass). Website: [www.mapowerforward.com/](http://www.mapowerforward.com/).

Oriana Reilly, a clean energy organizer for MCAN, emailed Marj about coaching us through their recommendations for a Climate Action Plan for Egremont. She added that Moody's has added climate change considerations to its calculation for municipal bond ratings. We wonder whether we can do anything else to significantly increase our use of renewable energy. Marj will email Oriana and invite a MCAN rep to come to a future meeting.

Emily sent her Mass Energy Consumers Alliance tax statement, which said that by contributing to GreenStart, she had prevented 608 lb of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in 2017.

**Berkshire Edge articles:** After the 100% Renewable Energy Summit, Pat will write a review. A future Edge article will be on energy aggregation in Egremont. Also, Corinna's son may have ideas about composting that could lead to an article.

**Berkshire County Green Committees Network:** BCGCN is not having a March meeting; members will attend the 3/5 BCC meeting. GB is participating in the HeatSmart program. The BCGCN will focus on county-wide energy conservation (especially in low-income areas) and on helping contractors learn to do the work required for energy conservation.

Pat mentioned the search for a county-wide sustainability coordinator. Lauren Gaherty and Sharon Rose are conducting an on-line poll to determine a job description and needs, such as transportation and bulk-purchasing.

**Bottles and cans collection:** Juliette has written a Newsletter article requesting volunteers.

**Sustainability Coordinator:** Juliette secured a DEP Recycling Dividends Program grant for \$4500, of which \$2000 is left. A postcard mailed to residents will cost about \$750. We have discussed doing a postcard to explain plastic film recycling, but the committee would like to include all items that can't go to the Transfer Station but can go elsewhere: plastic film, rechargeable batteries, CFLs, fabrics, hazardous material, ink cartridges & printers (Staples), bubble-wrap.

Juliette decided not to pursue accepting the state's offer of LED bulbs for our streetlights because the 4000 K lights are way too white. Also, the process of converting from leasing the streetlights to owning them was onerous and not cost-effective.

Rather than replacing the fluorescent lights in Town Hall with new LED fixtures, the bulbs will be replaced with LED bulbs as they burn out- much cheaper.

Green Communities grant provided a tankless water heater at the Eg Library.

**Egremont-Recycles Day:** April 21. **UPDATE: April 14.** Juliette has giveaways from MRF. E-vehicles (Pat's) . still state and Fed rebates/tax credits? (charging stations in town?)

*Meeting adjourned 5:05 pm. Next meeting will be Tuesday, **March 20, 4:00 PM.***

*Submitted by Marj Wexler, Sec'y*