

ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
Friday April 12, 2013 12:30PM
MRPC Conference Room, 1427R Water Street, Fitchburg

MEETING MINUTES

I. Welcome and Introduction

Mark Wetzel, Ayer; Jim Meehan, Athol; Travis Rearick, MRPC; Sarah White, MEMA; Alex Gill, MEMA; Tom Davey, Fitchburg Fire Dept; Trevor Beaureguard, Gardner; Doneen Durling, Gardner News; Ann Pierce, MassDevelopment; Victor Koivumaki, MRPC/Lancaster; Jay Donovan, NMCOG; John Hume, MRPC; Eric Smith, MRPC; Chantell Fleck, Stephanie Brow, MRPC; Alan Pease, Ashby; Kelly Brown, Mass Dept. of Energy Resources

V. Koivumaki called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m.

II. Approval of January 18, 2013 and February 25, 2013 Minutes

A. Pease made a motion to approve the minutes of January 18, 2013 and February 25, 2013. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

III. Introduction of Boreal Renewable Energy Development

J. Hume announced that the MRPC has hired Boreal Renewable Energy Development as a consultant to provide oversight of the Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) students on this project, as well as working with MRPC staff and WPI faculty.

Mr. Hume also indicated that Boreal will be coming out to give a presentation at an Energy Advisory Committee meeting in the future.

IV. MEMA Presentation

S. White indicated that at the MEMA Hazard Mitigation Department, the organization aids in assisting communities in recovery from natural hazards, and the long term damages and effects on people and their property.

A. Gill discussed the process of mitigating hazards and applying for a grant using this model. This grant application should explain a long term benefit to a community as well as the potential hazards that would be mitigated by the project. The most important aspect of the application is to demonstrate how the project will reduce future damage to your community.

S. White and A. Gill discussed the different programs that have been made available through FEMA and MEMA. S. White indicated that projects are reviewed based on the merit of the project.

J. Meehan asked about beaver mitigation projects through the grant programs.

S. White indicated that they do receive applications for these types of projects; however they have not had any success in funding them.

The group discussed potential projects and their likelihood of funding. A. Gill indicated that in order for a municipality to apply for and receive a grant for hazard mitigation, they must have a Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan implemented and up to date.

S. White indicated that for more information on the grant applications schedule to contact your area MEMA representative. Also, local Emergency Management Directors will be given the schedules as soon as they're available.

V. Administrative Matters

J. Hume indicated that there will be a meeting of the Energy Advisory Committee in the next couple months. More information will be distributed when the meeting date is chosen.

VI. Adjournment

There being no further business, V. Koivumaki adjourned the meeting at 1:30 p.m.

DOCUMENTS PRESENTED AT THIS MEETING:

EAC Meeting Notice April 12, 2013

January 18, 2013 and February 25, 2013 Meeting Minutes

MEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant personation