CAB Annual Meeting October 19, 2015

CAB accomplishments in the last year:

- Last Climate Week: 2015, first week February (7 days)
  - documentary on freight bicycle company
  - depot->bring in Styrofoam, TinSol (portable house)
  - sing-a-long, book event, outdoor events
  - Mother’s Out Front + Community Solar Events
  - goals: raise awareness + instill continuous action

- 2016’s climate week will be March 28th – April 3rd

- Community Solar:
  - since February, monthly meetings
  - single site for solar to be owned by residents who can’t put solar on their own roofs
  - has been hard to find site in Brookline – ½ acre to 2 acres
  - Village Solar, Aloha, other companies-> look to close a deal/make a recommendation
    - can buy solar piece deals right now

- Big campaign- Mother’s Out Front, couple hundred sign ups
  - emails, door hangers, signs
  - distributed over 4,000 door hangers
  - 40 signs
  - 7 people switched last week, gaining momentum

- Climate Action getting an award from Mass Energy on Wednesday!

Treasurer’s Report:

- Started with $10,500; current balance is $8,678 with income of $7,000
- total expenses $9312, 90%
  - climate week ($4,984)
  - web developer ($2,722)
  - printing expense ($782)
- donations increased over years

National level, 20 events, Pope, rallies
Locally, warrant article with selectmen’s articles 13 + 14, community aggregation
- can opt in to a different electricity default (from Eversource)
- Brookline Town Meeting in November

3 events:
- Mother’s Out Front Pipeline Leak Campaign
  - methane dangerous to trees + people
  - selectmen pass resolution about gas leaks
  - rally at the state house to work with representatives to pass house bills

Interfaith climate coalition in Wellesley 500 people, Muslim, Catholic, Protestant, Jewish presenters.
- House action on November 10, 2015
West Roxbury- Spectra pipeline, even though political opposition
-vigils + civil disobedience every week day 8-9 am, Tuesday nights

Speakers:
- Nancy Heller, Selectmen (one of founders of Green Caucus) + Andrew Gordon (legislative liaison to the state house, led contingent to talk to Cindy Creem, works with 350)
- Nancy Heller
  Selectmen’s Climate Action Committee:
  - Two warrant articles, community aggregation (involves everyone in the town)
    - Article 13, town selectmen broker deal with energy company
    - Article 14, resolution to negotiate to increase renewable energy component of electricity by 25% (right now, 22-25% with hydro, Eversource)
      - can opt out, everyone changes, except those that are already with a different energy provider.
      - average $7 more per month
      - non-profit like Mass Energy-possible tax deductions
  - AG needs to grant approval, 3 months
  - Methane leaks 351 (perhaps underreported) -> Brookline one of oldest communities
    - wasting $90 million per year, can heat 200,000 houses
    - House Bill 2370, gas consumers don’t have to pay for gas leaks
    - 2871, utilities fix gas leaks when a street is being repaved
    - Harvard Study-leaks account for 8% of our carbon emissions
    - 7 towns signed up for resolution
  - Use kids to help further advocacy- Climate Week, door-to-door
    - people more likely to give to kids
    - Lexington, kids reverse ban on solar panels

- Andrew Gordon:
  Activism and the Energy Debate on Beacon Hill (Notes on Presentation):
    - April 2014: Cape Wind is just about dead
    - Summer 2015: Solar installation hits net metering cap after being raised for 2 years
    - Baker administration We want long term energy plan before serious action
    - Mass Power Forward Coalition forms
    - Senate passes progressive solar legislation within Pacheco adaptation bill; Baker responds
  Global Warming Solutions Project goals:
    - Maximize energy efficiency and use of renewable resources to create jobs and reduced FF demand
    - 45% of electricity generated by Wind and Solar by 2025
    - Protect ratepayers from risky expenditures, including new pipelines.
    - Facilitate GWSA emission reduction goals (45% of 1990 numbers by 2020, 80% by 2050)
    - Call for action, but disagreement of what to do
  Some of this in policy terms:
    - Double the renewable portfolio standard (RPS)
    - (Increases the amount of energy suppliers have to get from renewable sources)
Offshore wind procurement (deep water tech off Nantucket- really windy)
NextGen Solar Policy Framework
No public subsidies or tariffs for new gas pipeline infrastructure.
Any hydro transmission has to meet environmental best practices standard.

Bills before the Joint TUE committee
- S. 1757 (Sen. Downing)- doubles RPS
- H. 2881 (Rep. Haddad)- offshore wind BUT also gas tariff
- H. 3724 (Gov. Baker)- raises net metering caps gives DOER authority to re-raise them.
- S. 1973 (Sen. Pacheco)- eliminated net metering caps and passed Senate in late July
- S. 1747 (Barrett)/S.1786 (Pacheco)- carbon pricing bills-> Big hearing coming up
  - Barrett all $ rebated to homeowners, Pacheco 20% to transportation and green infrastructure
  - FF companies create external costs, carbon pricing captures external prices, cut homeowner’s cost

How We Engage:
- Figure out what our win is (campaign win)->i.e. goal to pass resolution
- We figure out what we have to win before we can get our big win. (short term goals)
- We map out what resources we have and who needs to get involved (resources and constituencies)
- We identify which decision makers can give us our short term wins and we start thinking about tactics (targets and tactics)
- POWER of coalition building

What you can do:
- For the Mass Power Forward:
  - Connect with the coalition, meet with your elected officials, particularly Sen. Creem
- For Carbon Pricing: Show up next Tuesday at the statehouse at 1pm for the Carbon Pricing Hearing and/or submit written testimony as to why you support carbon pricing
- If you haven’t, join the Coalition for a Clean energy Future to stay plugged in.

Board election results:
Re-elected for additional three-year terms:
  - Tom Kilday
  - Susan Martin
  - Werner Lohe
  - David Pantalone

Newly-elected board member:
  - Diana Zheng

Officers:
  - new co-chair - David Pantalone
  - additional two-year term as co-chair - Tom Kilday
  - additional two-year term as secretary - Susan Martin