

Kittery Energy and Advisory Committee Monthly meeting

November 14, 2018 Wednesday 6:30 p.m. Room B Town Hall

Members in attendance: Lyn Rosoff, Julia O'Connell, Steve Bilski, John Werner, Jen Thayer and Jerry Robock.

Reviewed meeting with Kendra on Wednesday November 14 a.m.

We discussed our conference call with the non profit group "A Climate to Thrive" Mt Desert Island residential LED bulb swap program and decided that it is not the right model for us because they have paid staff and were able to procure a 2500 LED bulb donation from their local power company (not CMP) They enlisted students to promote the program at the four towns on MDI and were able to give a 6 pack of 60 watt LED bulbs to each household. There was no documentation of how effective the "Swap out " was of less energy efficient bulbs. They found it very effective to have student involvement and we decided to follow this part of their program .

There are no monies available from Kittery for this program so we will solicit local retailers for reduced LED prices for a limited time offer and the Lions club to help the students create an educational lightbulb demo board that can be easily transported for presentations.

Kendra informed us that we needed to contact the Superintendent Kittery of Schools, Eric Waddell for permission to engage with students to promote a town wide LED program.

Update from Kendra re: the townwide LED streetlight conversion. A vendor has been chosen and now needs to be budgeted for fiscal year 2019 before contract can be signed. She was pleased with Chief O'Brien's work on securing a competent vendor.

She also said that any meetings with energy committee members need to concern matters discussed by the Kittery Energy Committee. She found that it was confusing to be contacted by one of our members who presented ideas that had not originated from our committee. She will ONLY work on issues that have come through KEAC. (note name change to KESAC needs to be approved by town council. Paperwork has been submitted to Kendra for that)

*A written request was sent to Eric Waddell on Monday November 19th and he responded immediately in support of Jen Thayers Sustainability students to take on this project.

The monthly Kittery Winter Farmers market has a table available for nonprofits and welcomes student groups for the December 16th date. It is held from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at KCC gymnasium. Sustainability students will be there to present info about LED bulbs facts and savings.

Jen will work with Traip Science teachers, the Kittery Lions Club and Sustainability students to create a portable demo board and design posters with LED savings versus other type bulbs. A BIG Thank You to Jen for her work on this important project.

Steve B. presented info in chart form comparing savings comparisons of three bulb types 60 watt incandescent vs. CFL vs. LED .

ie. For an average household replacing 39 incandescent 60 bulbs with LEDs will save the homeowner \$262 in a year and \$1312 over five years based on CMP electric rate of .147/Kwh. This avoids 138# CO2 per year and 782# CO2 over 5 years . Love those numbers. Will look at savings in gallons of gasoline also. Thank you Steve.

Jerry Robock brought an example of discounted LED bulbs from a nearby efficiency Maine vendor (Dollar Tree in York, Maine) They offer an Energy Star rated warm white floodlight that is dimmable would replace a 65W bulb for \$1 per two pack.

The committee decided that local vendors in Kittery should be used for a discounted bulb program. Eldredge/Ace and Jackson/ True Value will be contacted to discuss a coupon program to be offered to begin after the holidays next year.

Julia presented 13 “Fun Facts” about LED bulbs. She will send them out and has asked committee members to vote on their top five to be used for advertizing purposes.

The votes are in :

#1 LED's have the longest life of all light bulbs (11 – 22 years) and can last 25 X longer then incandescent bulbs.

#2 LED bulbs are great for outdoor lighting because they don't attract as many insects as traditional light bulbs, go on instantly to full brightness and do not get hot to the touch.

#3 LED's can cut energy use by 80 % and are 7 times more efficient the incandescent bulbs yielding significant savings equivalent to 40 coal or gas fired power plants and avoiding 1800 million metric tons of carbon dioxide.

#4 LED's resist breakage and contain none of the poisonous mercury used by CFL bulbs.

#5 95% of an LED bulb is recyclable unlike incandescent or CFL's.

The LED facts that did not make the top five list were:

LED's promote plant growth when deep blue and hyper red are used .

Blue spectrum LED's retard bacterial growth on foods and are being used in refrigerators.

The NYC Times Square Ball has 32,256 individual LED bulbs.

If all the Christmas lights in the US were replaced with LED's we would save 17.2 Billion dollars!

Thanks to everyone who responded promptly with helpful edits of the original list.

Future project discussion

Thanks to passage of the Town Comprehensive Plan on November 6th voting day KEAC is now able to move forward on priorities listed in the plan..

Jerry suggested we tackle writing a climate action plan using the ICLEE model He reports that the York Energy Committee (he spoke to them 6 months ago) has hired an intern to do so.

Julia will follow up with head of YEC and present findings at our next meeting.

Next meeting to be held Wednesday December 12 at 6:30 Town hall

Please come for some Christmas cheer and a short 1 hour meeting

Thanks and Happy Holidays

respectfully submitted by Julia O'Connell

