Hot Earth Collaborative LLC  
Support for the New Pennsylvania Solar Center

Overview

Our team was tasked to provide technical support for the Pennsylvania Solar Center (PSC) in order to help accelerate its growth as an organization. The primary goal was to help the PSC continue to move towards its goal of attaining status as a self-sustainable non-profit entity so that it could begin to provide resources and financial support to its surrounding community, ultimately achieving our sponsors vision for the organization.

Objectives

1) Design an online platform that will be used as a centralized location for current solar owners, prospective solar owners, solar businesses, investors and all other members of the solar community to interact and seek guidance regarding the process of going solar.

2) Build a platform on which a statewide registry of solar owners can be built in the future. This registry will be maintained by the Pennsylvania Solar Center and will exist as a reliable and unbiased resource for potential solar owners, linking them with investors, funding opportunities and qualified solar developers.

3) Develop a streamlined request for proposal (RFP) process to simplify the complex financing arrangements that are often associated with the solar installation bid process for tax-exempt entities such as non-profit organizations and small businesses.

Approach

• Met with sponsor to discuss wants, needs, and future vision for the organization
• Consolidate customer requests and prioritize metrics using a weighted AHP matrix
• Conduct thorough background research
• Use the aforementioned metrics to select website hosting platform
• Held team selection session for website template. This was approved by sponsor next meeting.
• Developed website content analysis to decide what information should be included
• Implement strategic plug-ins and widgets to simplify developer GUI
• Conduct relevant research and draft website content
• Download google map and interactive pa map .zip files. Integrate features into website.
• Generate testing procedure checklist to validate that all links and pages function without issue

Outcomes

• The advancement, promotion, and substantial development of the PSC as an organization due to our team’s contribution has been recognized by multiple parties as the official jumpstart of the organization
• The completion of our objectives has directly helped the PASC finally attain its status as a self-sustainable entity.
• It can now begin to provide resources and financial support to its surrounding community, ultimately achieving our sponsors vision for the organization