

Energy MINUTES 1.15.19

Present: Susan O'Connor, Andrew Vernon, Judy Wagner, Annie Chappell, interested in becoming a member Alex Strycky

Guests: Don Simms and FRCOG presenter, Pat Smith

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m.

1. Mass Energy Insight (MEI) Data review/Pat Smith

Green Communities, started in 2009, are funded through the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI). The GC goal is to help participating communities reduce energy use by 20% over 5 years. Northfield Green Communities baseline was established in 2011 and we now have added the school data to our baseline. The municipal buildings are in a separate MEI file from the school data.

Peregrine provides tech support for MEI data. FRCOG and Pat Smith helped us enter data and with the associated Green Communities report and other small communities like ours to navigate the program.

Notes:

- * Vehicles in our baseline keep our energy use high, and makes it hard to reach our reduction goal since all of our Town vehicles are exempt.
- * Weather normalization data is part of the MEI report as of this past year.
- * ECM =Energy Conservation Measures
- * Access: Our Town Administrator needs to contact Jim Barry to request MEI data access for any committee members that want access.

2. Minutes approved

3. Clerk of the Works update/Susan

Jim Toth and Susan O'Connor worked with Andrea Wood (FRCOG) to put out a bid for NES weatherization procurement. Six contractors attended the school walkthrough, including Sullivan & Sons, Air Barrier Solutions, O'Bear, Energia, Zerodraft, Kurtz, and Onvia. Bids are due by January 17th, so that some work might begin during the February break. The contractors shared notes during the walkthrough about the best ways to achieve our requests for insulation to reach R 48. They mentioned that a better way to insulate from below the attic into the cavities above the dropped ceiling involves a product called monoglass, which is an adhering spray version of fiberglass. It is easier to apply, can cover areas hard to reach or wrap, and solves the problem of affixing glass bats. They felt that the ceiling wouldn't hold the 4 inches of bats required. Susan ran this past Ben Weil, at CEE, and he fully endorses the idea. Questions that came up during the walk through:

- o How to address heat loss through passive vents? And we need a final design for the attic entrance insulation.

- Don asks whether there is any recommendation for closed-cell foam, which has a value of R 7 per inch, whereas monoglass has a value of R 4 per inch. He notes that closed-cell foam can be soy-based, and works well on walls, rim joists, and around perimeters. Costs of either material for the scope are not yet known. He suggested that Town building inspector, Jim Hawkins, may be able to offer some advice on this.

4. Potential committee members

Alex has submitted a Citizen Interest Form to Town Hall. He wants to do something for the Town to address greenhouse gas emissions. We shared our need for a member with some technical background, and believe he will add that to our committee, since he has experience with energy planning and general contracting.

Don Simms is too busy now to join us, but will be glad to act as a consultant for the committee. Don suggests that we contact a fellow contractor, Joe Kayne, as a potential member.

Christine Copeland has not committed yet. We are still interested in having her join us.

5. Education and outreach

Andrew spoke with Penney Betsold, faculty member at PVRs, who is involved in the STEAM program and teaches AP Environmental Science. There is a student science presentation March 7th, and we may want to approach the students to do some energy analysis projects at home or school to dovetail with our efforts to pinpoint energy use/loss and redux.

Susan suggests that we could do a slide presentation or have a table to show what we are working on in the schools, projected energy savings, etc. Andrew agrees and notes that we need some visuals, and a tangible presentation for interest.

TO DO: A power point presentation of our work in the schools. Andrew, Alex and maybe Lynn could put this together, and/or come up with some hands-on activities. We need to bring ideas to our next meeting in February.

6. Next Meeting Agenda

- Susan wants to bring the Building Committee (Kathy Wright and others) to the table so we can discuss who is doing what at NES, how to stay informed, and work together toward a common goal.
- Possible vehicle fuel use tracking/Annie. All depts would need to be contacted and approve the use of the tracking devices. Annie will find out if there is a deadline to the funding for this DOER project.
- Judy notes that we can look at the National Geographic program 'From Paris to Pittsburg' on Climate Change and working models to combat it.

Next Meeting Date: Monday, Feb. 18th 6:30pm
Meeting adjourned 8pm