

Energy Committee Meeting Minutes
Sept 14, 2022. 6:00pm
Virtual Meeting on Zoom

Present: Judy Wagner, Co-chair
Jim VanNatta, Co-chair
Andrew Vernon
Seth Hansell, Secretary

Review Meeting Minutes of July 25

- July Minutes reviewed
- Andrew moves to accept the minutes from July 25th, Jim seconds the motion
- Unanimous approval.

Green Communities Grant

- NES Update
 - Equipment is all installed.
 - Boiler needs to be turned on and have the heat come up as part of either a training or a final system test. This final action should happen later this week.
 - Regardless, there needs to be a final training. Scott McKusick and Gretchen Licata are aware and on top of this.
- Final Report Tasks
 - Jim and Judy have been working on putting these together. Some technical work may still be needed.
 - No public meeting on the idling initiative. In person events have been very difficult to facilitate.
 - Will send the report to Andrea to get final invoice prepared which can be sent in after the report, but we would like to do it ASAP
 - Photos from Alex are well documented
 - Should we put this into a shared photo drive for community access
 - Add to photos that Judy has of the library work
 - Still need photos of police car
 - How to best include photos and merge documents?
 - Seth agreed to put all the materials into a single document and get into the form that the DOE needs. PDF or Zip files.
- Unfortunately we missed the deadline to complete this prior to the next cycle so we are unable to get a submission in for this current grant cycle
 - We still need to get something back from Eversource
 - Eversource currently needs information about the NES boiler
 - Regardless, there won't be anything for this next cycle of grants

- There may be other sources we can look at given that ventilation is a big part of what we see as the next steps for NES.

Updates

- Public Information about MA and federal energy bills and programs
 - Would be nice to get info about these bills out to NextDoor or other social media
 - Inflation Reduction Act, energy components
 - Rewiring America has a good chart that may be a bit too interactive
 - In the next few months, it might be great to share this with the public.
 - Hard to find things that are really clear, but much seems too complicated and may cause more confusion than help, at this point.
 - Can we put car chargers where we need to be? NES, Pioneer, Library? Places where they would be visible.
- Facilities Building
 - Eversource does have a new construction team, led by Kimberly Cullinane, who has been in contact with Andrew.
 - They want to meet and that contact has been made with Andrea.
 - We want to stay involved and make sure that energy considerations are being taken as they think about this facility.
- UMass CEE
 - We received a message about a new program from U Mass CEE. For ten selected towns students will do an assessment of the potential for solar in the town.
 - What do they need from us and what do we need to do so they can begin work in Northfield?

Other Items not anticipated

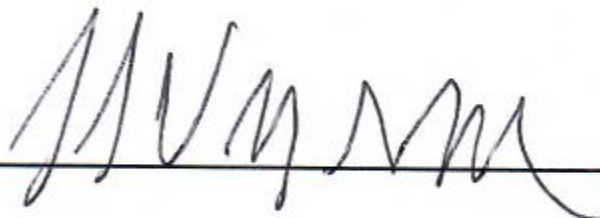
- MEI Data
 - Andrew has been in email contact with Alison Gage from FRCOG to clarify what we need to do in terms of number crunching and would like to meet with her in person.
 - Andrew is willing to take on this task again this year, having done it once he feels it will be easier the next time.
 - Let's see if we can get them to do as much as they are willing; we did more than expected last year and may not need to do quite as much.
 - Judy would also like to see how this works and help out if possible, particularly if it is a zoom meeting.
 - This is due Nov 4th for the July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 data.
 - Notice that they aren't tracking everything we would like, i.e. carbon emission, but it is a good amount of data that we get to digest.
- Can we use Smith engineering students to present data to the town?
 - Could be used to help us present MEI data

- Judy has potential contacts at Smith who might be interested in this kind of a project.
- Probably for the school year, for a class, but possibly for a summer internship of some sort.
- Particularly with the effect of inflation and energy costs.

Public Comments

Next meeting set for October 19th at 6:00 at Town Hall.

Approved:

x  date: 2/7/23

x _____ date: _____

x _____ date: _____