

Marshfield and Plainfield Energy and Climate Change committee

Monthly meeting minutes, February 5th, 2018, 7:00pm

Upstairs library area

Committee members in attendance: Anne Miller, Nick Seifert, Becky Wigg, Dan Chotokoff,

Members of the public in attendance: Rich Phillips, Michael Billingsly

Draft agenda for next meeting

- Select a facilitator
 - Public comment
 - Announcements
 - Agenda modification
 - Approval of previous minutes
 - Business
 - Act 174 discussion (if needed)
 - Discussion about how to get quorum.
 - Discussion about the Marshfield Dam (if needed)
 - Town meeting resolution update (if needed)
 - Town report update (if needed)
 - Climate change discussion update
 - New members (if needed)
 - Library book/movie donations/funding
 - Plainfield updates
 - Draft agenda for next meeting
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- Dan volunteered as facilitator
 - No public comment
 - No announcements
 - No agenda modification except Michael here, so will discuss the dam.
 - Approval of previous minutes moved and approved.
 - Business
 - Act 174 discussion (if needed) - 5 min
 - Discussion about how to get quorum - 5 min
 - Discussion about the Marshfield Dam (if needed) - 5 min
 - Town meeting resolution update (if needed) - 5 min
 - Town report update (if needed) - 2 min
 - Climate change discussion update - 10 min
 - New members (if needed) - 1 min
 - Library book/movie donations/funding - 5-10 min
 - Plainfield updates - none in attendance.
 - Draft agenda for next meeting - 5 min
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- Business
 - Act 174 Discussion
 - Nick Summarized CVRPC presentation to PC and EC.
 - Subcommittee meeting on this planned for 2/12/2018 at 7:00pm to discuss strategy and plan going forward.
 - Dam update.
 - Michael discussed content from the GMP presentation/meeting a couple months back. Michael had visual observations, and knowledge of dam failure modes from other reading. GMP stated the dam had a “satisfactory” grade. Michael obtained a copy of the report, and believes GMP’s statements were misleading at best.
 - On further investigation Michael obtained copies of dam safety reports from 2009, and 2013. Both reports indicate that work is needed on the emergency spillway. Each report was conducted by different companies.
 - The Plainfield selectboard gave Michael permission to conduct further investigation into the safety reports, so he purchased 2 copies of each of the reports.
 - Michael has obtained permission and money to speak with one of the dam safety engineers for an hour to discuss the content of the reports.
 - Michael answered a question from a previous session about capacity and generation. It’s a 5.0MW.

- Quorum discussion
 - Nick reviewed the previous discussion on this topic. There was some agreement about how to go forward on this. More discussion to come.
- Town meeting resolution update.
 - Rich intends that the climate change discussion on Feb. 22nd will address the town meeting resolution for part of it.
 - Rich is looking for / thinking about how to get discussion of the issue from the crowd at town meeting.
- Town report update.
 - Nick briefly discussed the town plan submittal.
- Climate Change meeting discussion
 - Rich discussed with Michael and believes they are well coordinated on the speaking arrangement.
 - Because of the density of the content, Rich is planning to reserve 2 hours for the discussion.
 - Rich is also going to move the meeting to Twinfield's cafeteria to have a good projection system, and be able to set up chairs however desired.
 - Rich is going to look into what he needs for the night of the discussion.
 - Rich expects some money may be spent on resources (e.g. handouts, poster board, etc). Some MECCC money needs to be allocated for this.
 - Nick mentioned his feeling that the basics of this (e.g. is it real) should be very minor, like 5 minutes.
 - Michael discussed some detail on part of what he hopes to present about positive feedback loops and some of the current research in this area.
 - Rich needs a volunteer to write down ideas during the presentation on flip charts, as needed.
 - Becky volunteered to help with this.
 - Nick will help with technical stuff, if needed.
 - The committee agreed to fund up to \$100 towards this event for materials, and other incidentals.
- Discussion about buying climate change related books and videos for the Library.
 - Anne got an update from Bobbi on budget: the committee has \$500 annually, which does not roll over. There is also \$500 in a one time account from a grant. This does roll over.
 - Anne has been looking into what movies she would want to get by doing interlibrary loan.
 - One movie she plans to suggest is called How to Boil a Frog. She will be showing this on 2/14/18 at the OSC library.
 - The committee agreed to allocate \$50 for a first sum to allow Anne to spend on books and videos. More can be approved later if she finds good items.
- Membership update
 - Nick gave a quick update on emailing a couple folks, but they weren't able to make it tonight.
- Plainfield updates
 - Michael mentioned that Plainfield is adding information regarding flooding and flood hazard mitigation. Also adding extended winter storms; extended power outages; dam emergency releases/failures; hazmat spills on route 2. Michael is extending an offer for help, if desired or needed, when Marshfield rewrites its mitigation plan.
 - Michael briefly touched on LED lighting and light pollution.
 - Michael mentioned briefly some thoughts around why Marshfield has not had any leadership on the dam issues.
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 - Discussion about how to get quorum.
 - Discussion about the Marshfield Dam (if needed)
 - Town meeting resolution update (if needed)
 - Climate change discussion update debrief
 - Library book/movie donations/funding report
 - Plainfield updates
 - Draft agenda for next meeting