

Marshfield Energy Committee Meeting Minutes
July 5th, 2021 7:00pm

In attendance: Nick Seifert, Rich Phillips, Anne Miller, Wes Cate

Public: John Morris,

Announcements

- None

Agenda Additions

- VECAN Collaborative commission

Approval of Minutes

- Minutes motioned, seconded and approved.

Business

- Town Solar update
 - Nick gave an update looking at the projected cost of the OSC solar trackers, versus what their actual payback had been. The short version of this is that the projection was to be paid back in 12 years, and it looks like this will be very close.
 - Nick will present this to the Selectboard on Tuesday 7/6.
 - John expressed a willingness to help out with an updated cost projection, or research, if that is helpful.
- Fire station update (if needed)
 - Nick has reached out to Will Schwartz about attending the next meeting to discuss this.
- Weatherization of rentals
 - Ellen not in attendance, but Rich had an update.
 - Ellen and Rich reached out to Becca at VEIC, who provided some information. This information is being turned into a letter, along with some case studies from Thetford. They need some additional information from Becca to complete this. This letter will go to the landlords, to try and promote the weatherization of the rental units.
 - Rich also is working on getting the addresses of landlords in Marshfield.
 - The previous list was about 7x, but could be as high as 10x.
- Fall Foliage Festival Gathering update
 - Rich doesn't have a large update on this for the committee. He is planning to discuss the shelter, and old home days with the selectboard on 7/6. The date is 9/26/2021, the same day as the fall foliage / harvest celebration at the OSC. The main focus is to get all of the committees from town to have a table, and be ready to discuss with others what they are doing. Rich has a group of 5 or 6 people who are interested in helping out with this.
 - Rich has some ideas about the shelter, and how to proceed with it.
- Committee Structure
 - No update on this. Next step would be to discuss with the selectboard and see what they recommend. The main benefit of being a committee is having a budget.
- Plainfield updates

- No Plainfield attendee.
- Other Business (if needed)
 - VECAN Communications collaborative
 - VECAN is developing a “communications toolkit” for energy committees. They’re working with a number of energy committees from across the state. They’re tapping into what these committees already do to help develop communication tools that can be shared more broadly.
 - Some of this is thinking about the places and ways that information is being communicated, and then tapping into those.
 - Rich will plan to forward some of the things that he has from this so we are aware of what is going on.
 - The group will be meeting virtually 6 times, and they’ve met once already.
 - Solar lighting for OSC
 - Bobbi requested some help related to adding solar lighting to the OSC parking lot. Nick has been asking Efficiency VT for some information, as well as contacting a local wholesaler for some info. Likely to be discussed at 7/6 selectboard meeting, so will know more soon.
 - Other discussions / ideas:
 - Rich is interested in doing a “vehicle type” survey, of some kind, on route 2. The hope is that this information could then be shared on FPF or elsewhere to raise awareness about the increase in the size of vehicles people are buying.

Agenda for August:

- Announcements
- Approval of previous minutes
- Agenda additions
- Business
 - Adding more Marshfield Municipal solar
 - Fire station weatherization
 - Weatherization of rentals
 - Old home days / fall foliage festival
 - What should the energy committee do for this?
 - VECAN Communications collaborative update
 - Solar lighting update for OSC (if needed)
 - Plainfield Updates
 - Other business