

Marshfield Energy and climate change committee meeting
May 3rd, 2021 at 7:00pm

In attendance: Nick Seifert, Rich Phillips, Bob Atchinson, Anne Miller
Public: Ellen Keene

Announcements

- Stove rebates: <https://fpr.vermont.gov/woodenergy/rebates>
 - \$200 to replace an old stove, \$250 rebate for Washington Electric customers
 - 26% federal rebate for stoves over 75% efficient. Details not yet final from IRS.
 - Nick to put out a FPF post about stove incentives
- Bob mentioned that this Friday (5/7) there is an Arbor Day celebration at city hall at noon, then to the state house. UVAG is the organizing group.
 - For information on Friday's event contact Laura Simon Simonlaura06@gmail.com or 802-296-8318.
- Next VECAN lunch is 17th of May at noon. Topic to be announced.

Approval of minutes

- No quorum, so not approved.

Business

- Recruitment

- Ellen mentioned the idea of an event to get people together for a RAPM related event, or something related to our efforts. She was impressed by everything which was accomplished by RAMP.
 - Anne mentioned that the library concert series was happening this summer. She thinks if we do anything, it should be big rather than just tagging onto another event.
 - Wes mentioned that he thinks Twinfield has a pizza oven, and possibly some student association working with it.
 - Wes will get information about this for the next meeting.
 - Nick, Anne, Rich shared some thoughts on RAMP.
- Rich discussed the idea of moving to an ad-hoc committee, rather than being a formal town recognized committee.
 - Nick voiced support for trying this.
 - Bob commented that Plainfield has a less formal structure, so no minutes or meeting warnings, but they do get a budget. He is the Energy Coordinator for Plainfield.
 - Wes suggested we could request the money as part of the town budget.
 - Nick will reach out to Bobbi to discuss these two options.

- COVID funds

- Rich attended a webinar with some initial information on this. The gist of it is that the preliminary allotments, which are not final, would be around \$150,000 for Marshfield. No clear, or established rules, about what to do with that money. There is a description that it should be related to COVID, but not totally clear what this means. Rich believes that there will be another VECAN webinar with more detail on this soon.

- MECCC Project selection

- Survey (if needed)

- Weatherization of rental units
 - Ellen is interested in helping out with this.
 - Rich suggested that Barre's energy committee, and the Capstone organization would be a good place to start with this.
 - Bob suggested talking to the Business division at Efficiency VT.
 - Affordable housing
 - Central VT Habitat for Humanity
 - Bike infrastructure improvements
 - Selectboard related:
 - Can any of the COVID funds be applied to this?
 - Nick will email Bobbi to get on the selectboard agenda for their next meeting.
 - Possible projects:
 - Connect the town garage to the boiler at the OSC. The capacity is adequate for this, but would need to connect water over to the garage.
 - **Additional solar at OSC**
 - Likely could get a feeling easily from the selectboard on if they would go for this or not.
 - **Weatherization at the fire station**
 - Hot water heater at OSC
 - Possibly EV Charging
 - Likely to be money available here from the state transportation budget.
 - Weatherization funds for residents of town & rental properties
 - EV related events, promotion, rides, etc.
 - Bob is going to talk to Jim Wolynetz (sp?) for details on their EV charger status, details, etc.
 - Community building type event, not necessarily focused on Energy stuff.
- Plainfield update

Agenda for June meeting

- In person meeting
- Announcements
- Approve minutes
- Business
 - Plainfield updates
 - COVID funds update
 - Committee structure
 - Ad-hoc vs Energy Coordinator vs Committee
- Projects
 - Selectboard feedback - Nick
 - Weatherization of Rentals - Ellen
 - Twinfield Pizza oven - Wes
 - Cabot EV status - Bob