

Energy Committee Meeting Minutes
November 6th, 2023 7:00pm
Old schoolhouse common & zoom

Members In attendance: Nick Seifert, Anne Miller, Mike Xenakis, Wes Cate
Public:

- Public Comments
 - None present
- Announcements
 - Movie at the OSC tomorrow night.
 - On the 15th, 17th is the “rain” date stargazing with George Springston
 - Mike will be presenting at the Better Building by Design. Deep weatherization and electrification is the topic, case study of Montpelier job their company did.
 - Saturday at 10am there is a winter clothes giveaway in the upstairs hallway of the OSC. Bring or take clothes.
- Agenda modifications
 - Conservation commission Zoom accounts
 - Building committee disbandment
- Approval of previous minutes.
 - October minutes motioned and approved.
- Business
 - Agenda modifications:
 - Conservation zoom accounts
 - The conservation commissions is interested in sharing the cost of a zoom account. Would the Energy Committee chip in.
 - Nick mentioned that there may be a corporate account which would allow multiple users.
 - Building committee disbandment
 - Anne heard through the Library that there was a building committee disbandment, according to Bobbi. Mike agreed, and said this was a “temporary” committee.
 - Right now the main issue is that the MERP audit is much wanted, but will help drive any changes or updates.
 - Anne says that anything related to the Gym, and the elevator is not getting worked on. Someone may be coming to look at fixing the elevator shaft in November.
 - Mike mentioned being willing and able to help, but would like Susan to reach out to him. Anne will facilitate this.
 - Plainfield updates
 - No one from Plainfield present.
 - Legislative updates and funding opportunities:
 - MERP updates
 - Application is approved. Mike has not heard anything for the town garage portion of it. Mike had requested a Level 1 audit for the town garage, possibly related. He is now waiting to hear back from them and schedule the audit.
 - Food shelf freezer update
 - Nick spoke with Glenn at the food shelf, installed a kill-a-watt, and took some photos of the refrigerator labels. Some follow up and research to do here, and then will make a recommendation to Glenn.
 - Upper Winooski Community Solar
 - They had a meeting, and Rich Philips joined to try and help out. They discussed a variety of options and how to move forward. They seemed to recognize that they may not have

sufficient expertise to tackle this project, and that they might benefit from more group members.

- Anne had some suggestions about who might help with this, Laddie Lushion - a lawyer that Anne knows about who has helped cooperative groups set up.
- Anne also suggested the Vermont Community Loan Fund.
- Nick suggested looking up the Peacham project, and reach out to them to see if they can advise.
- Enhanced Energy Plan updates
 - Nick doing some work here. CVRPC is planning a mid-November event to discuss getting going on enhanced energy plans. Nick plans to attend. Nick also went to a planning commission meeting, but did not get much guidance there. Nick also reached out to Rich Baker on the selectboard about some questions here, and it sounds like this can be separate from the town meeting. Instead only a public hearing by the selectboard and by the planning commission are needed. That should make timing of this work easier.
- VECAN Conference coming up?
- Future areas of work:
 - More solar for Marshfield, and MERP may help here.
 - This is something we should review ahead of the audit. If the town plan has a goal for energy usage or renewable amounts, this can be added to the MERP folder.
 - Variable speed pumps / evaluate efficiency of town waste & water facilities
 - Thank you event / something for Susan
 - Areas for education / interaction with community members around energy, heat, efficiency, climate, etc.
 - Electric Vehicle charging at the OSC.
- Tentative agenda for next meeting:
 - Public Comments
 - Announcements
 - Agenda modifications
 - Approval of previous minutes.
 - Business
 - Building committee at OSC
 - Food shelf freezer updates
 - MERP updates
 - Upper Winooski Community Solar updates
 - Enhanced Energy Plan updates
 - Future areas of work:
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Zoom Meeting

Join: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3332233374?pwd=M0NJamtVRERVK2Z5TFdWRlJ5a1RUZz09>

OR: Call 1(301) 715-8592 // Meeting ID: 333 223 3374 // Passcode: 124891

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