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Energy Sub-Committee

Agenda

Tuesday, July 14, 2015

5:30 – 6:30 @ Main Street Arts, Saxtons River

Call to Order

Meeting began at 5:30 on the lawn of MSA

Attending: Owen Dodge; Rick Holloway. Alan Fowler; Devin Smith, and Guy Payne

Additions to the Agenda for Routine Administrative Matters and/or Pressing Matters that will require ratification at a future meeting

None

Approve Minutes

No previous minutes. This was the initial meeting of the Energy Committee

Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda (3 minutes per person)

There were no public comments

Agenda:

1. Update on status on Municipal Solar Initiative

Guy updated committee members of earlier discussion with Andy Cay of Integrated Solar in Brattleboro and Chip Stearns in which pro forma of different installation options were reviewed for a 500kw system. The committee wanted to pursue either outright purchase of a system or work with a developer for a hybrid system in which there is a power purchase agreement with an option to buy after 7 years. The Committee wants to meet with Chip Stearns to request his support for this effort. Guy will set up an early morning meeting in the near future. Potential sites were brainstormed: Gravel pit, roof tops, municipal parking lots, BF wastewater grounds.

2 Update on Windham Wood Heat Initiative

Guy reviewed the Windham Wood Heat Initiative and passed out the Intake Form to be completed for each municipal building prior to an initial analysis by the Windham Wood Heat Team.

While work with the public schools is an additional option, the decision to move forward will rest with Chris Kibbe, and the School Boards. It was decided to give the Intake Form to Chip when we have the municipal solar meeting with Chip. Pending receipt of Intake Form, the Initiative will review the information to determine the urgency of need and prioritize given other building requests in the County. Once approval is given an initial walk through is conducted with recommendations for either a thermal energy audit or another option depending on the severity of issues. The town/school board would pay 25% of the audit with the Initiative covering 75%. The outcome might be a recommendation for conversion with life cycle payback combined with financial assistance from the Windham Wood Heat Initiative. The Initiative will recommend different financing options. Two key buildings were identified: Waste Water Treatment Plant in BF and the new one proposed for Saxtons River.

3. Update on PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy)

Guy encouraged everyone to read the revised PACE Program from Efficiency Vermont. There are a number of Windham County towns participating and we need to prepare the citizens for a potential town vote in March. Guy offered to contact EVT to come and make a presentation about the advantage of the PACE Program.

5. Priority Setting and Assignments

Guy forwarded a copy of the Energy Chapter of the 2011 Town Plan to the Committee. Given one of the Goals of the Energy Chapter is to “*Encourage efficient, safe, and renewable energy sources for all public and private buildings and transportation.*”, it was recognized that Municipal Solar, Windham Wood Heat Initiative, and the PACE Program fall within the Committee’s charge and the town’s Energy Goals.

6. Set time for regular meetings

Future meetings will be the first Tuesday of the month. Next meeting is August 4th. Main Street Arts in Saxtons River is the preferred location dependent on availability of space.

Other Business

None

Committee adjourned at 6:30.

Respectfully submitted.



Guy Payne
Town Energy Coordinator