**Shelburne Energy Committee**

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 20, 2022

**Present:** Tom Johnson, Pat Stevenson, John Walsh, George Boettner, Andrew Baker

**Minutes** of the December 16, 2021 meeting were unanimously approved.

**Old Business**: **BSE Boiler Replacement** – Tom reported on correspondence with the engineer contracted who said that electric rates would rise significantly if an electric boiler were installed making that approach cost prohibitive.

John Walsh noted that BSE will be required to have oil back up even if they do add mini-splits, so there is time to further investigate mini-splits. Whether the school can afford an additional heating/cooling system is another question. John hopes they will go with a high efficiency oil boiler – says they can get up around 90% efficiency.

Andrew noted that Mohawk School Building Committee is scheduling a meeting to review the proposal developed by Solect Energy.

John Walsh noted that he attended a webinar presented by Andrew Beldon, VP of Solar at Eversource and will invite him to our Feb. 24 meeting to learn more about Eversource approaches to solar.

**Mass Energy Insight web site:** Tom noted that there is a lot of info there establishing baseline energy usage for town owned buildings.

**Cowell Gym:** Tom noted that the updated engineer’s report now specs mini-splits for the building at $133,000, significantly below the $300,000 initially ballparked. The Green Communities RFP will be coming out soon. John Walsh is looking for clarification on the comparisons in the report between gas, oil and electric. John volunteered to take the lead on the Cowell evaluation and agreed to contact Terry Narkewicz next week to see if she is friendly to that idea. Pat Stevenson agreed to organize a tour of Cowell, which is now scheduled for 1pm on February 10.

**Shelburne Newsletter:** Andrew is launching the first issue this weekend and asked for Energy Committee news. John suggested and the group agreed to invite public attendance at our meetings, tho the group agreed to keep committee membership at the current size for now. Tom will send Andrew the zoom link for the Feb. meeting.

**Liaison Work:** Pat agreed to contact George Butler, who wrote an energy op ed in the Recorder today, and learn more about their activities – Citizen Climate Lobby. Tom and George will continue liaising with the FRCOG Energy Committee that Bob Dean facilitates. John agreed to invite Carole Collins, Greenfield Sustainability Coordinator, to our next meeting.

**New Business**: John spoke with Ken Kiernan at Eversource concerning the incentives for 2022. Mini-split incentives are $2400 per ton. There is an 8-page list of incentives.

The grant we applied for to do energy outreach work is still pending.

John asked about putting a warrant question on the Town Meeting warrant asking for a small operating budget - perhaps $500 or enough to cover 2 mailings to town residents. John will talk to Terry. If we receive the outreach grant we can waive the amount. Andrew noted that the town tax bill mailing is another resource – next tax bill mailing is in June.

John also agreed to talk with Terry about getting the Energy Committee onto the town web site.

Next Meeting: Feb. 24 at 7pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.