Shelburne Energy Committee

Monday, April 21, 2022 at 7:30 pm

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

Staff Person: Cynthia Boettner

Agenda

**Minutes:** Minutes of the April 14 meeting were approved with small edits with 3 in favor and 2 abstentions – Tom and John.

**Cowell Gym** – Green Communities Application: John reported that he has reviewed a proposal we will submit tomorrow (created by John W. and Alison Gage at FRCOG) for $189,000 with a 15 + year payback (with oil at $4/gallon). Estimated annual savings are 4,147 gallons of oil, which comes to an annual cost savings of $7,550 when accounting for the increase in electricity use. We will be proposing through another program the installation of additional solar panels either on the Cowell Gym roof or elsewhere on town property to offset the electric usage of the heat pumps.

**Mass Save Community First Update:** Tom Johnson reported that there was a training yesterday – Pat and Cynthia attended. Pat reported that outreach materials were discussed and there is a webinar online that can be accessed. Cynthia prepared a report of her activities for the week (attached to the minutes). Tom agreed to be the person to review and approve Cynthia’s hours for reimbursement as our Energy Advocate.

Cynthia shared a half page flyer that we can use for outreach – she is getting printing quotes from the Franklin County Sheriff’s office. Andrew and John suggested adding the word Shelburne to the header and adding: “Have questions? Contact your local Shelburne Energy Advocate, Cynthia Boettner at 413 - …..) John recommended using the flyer as is for an insert in the upcoming town tax bill mailer in June, and requesting these custom changes, which could take several weeks, for distribution later in the year.

Cynthia reported that the town Treasurer would like to get the one page tax bill mailer ASAP. The committee agreed that a letter introducing the Energy Committee and Cynthia would be the lead, with perhaps an invite to an event or series of events. The Eversource mailer could be on the back.

Pat suggested Cynthia working with the senior center to help elders work through questions. Pat suggested working with Mohawk students – Andrew suggested contacting the guidance counselor about setting up capstone projects or internships in the fall. Cynthia suggested working with an Eagle Scout (John Taylor may know the scout contact).

Cynthia will send a blurb for the Shelburne e-newsletter to Andrew on Saturday, introducing her as our Energy Advocate.

John proposed having he and Pat work with Cynthia on marketing materials and then bringing proposals to the committee for review, rather than wordsmithing things in each meeting. Similarly, he proposed a 3-month schedule of outreach activities and asked for input.

The committee briefly reviewed the Mass Save web site, which has a customized Shelburne header on our version.

**New Business:**

Pat reported that she contacted Chris Mason, Sustainability Coordinator for Northampton, and talked about their senior center heat pump system. She suggested we might invite Mason to a future meeting.

John proposed that we invite Andreas Schmid of Solect Energy to our next meeting to talk about solar panel options for the Cowell Gym roof.

Andrew reported that he will be attending the Mohawk building committee meeting on April 25 at 5pm to review the Solect Proposal. He will send the link.

**Next meeting** is Thursday, May 19 at 7pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

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