

Starksboro Energy Committee
5:30 p.m. Monday September 14, 2020
Virtual Teams Meeting

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Conference ID: 222 356 293#

1. Attendees
 - a. Phil
 - b. Megan
 - c. Jeff
 - d. Richard
 - e. Guest: Robyn Reynolds
2. Approve Minutes from August 3, 2020
 - a. Moved by Jeff to accept, Phil seconded
 - b. Megan abstained not having attended the last meeting
 - c. All approved
3. Public Comments
 - a. Robyn is interested in joining the Committee
 - b. We could petition the Select Board if needed in the future to expand seats, but don't think we need to now
 - c. Richard to inform Koran Cousino
4. Benchmarking Town Buildings Project
 - a. Review ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager (ESPM) Inputs
 - i. Megan will share invite with Robyn to the ESPM data
 - ii. Could the Town Treasurer input the data into the tool starting with Celine now and transitioning to a new treasurer?
 - iii. It may be useful to teach "batch uploads" to the Treasurer as we transition this over
 1. Robyn has experience with this tool and approach
 - iv. It could be useful to be able to manage the town's energy use and to identify unusual patterns for the Treasurer to note potential equipment issues
 - v. We are just focusing on energy tabs and not water or other in the tool
 - vi. Robyn will look into batch upload templates
 - vii. We should encourage the Treasurer to upload quarterly in order to allocate the solar appropriately
 - viii. We need the rest of the 2019 data to put in to update the results

- ix. This would be good management tool to show how we spend our energy budget over time for tax payers
 - x. How best to bring Celine on board?
 - 1. Richard request to Koran
 - 2. Jeff is willing to broach the topic with Celine
 - a. Does she already collect the information in a spreadsheet currently or does she just review PDFs and file them away?
 - b. What tools does she currently use?
 - c. Jeff will start the conversation initially, and then will bring Robyn in to show her
 - d. Ask her what she's willing to do in terms of data entry
 - 3. Robyn will then get together with them to review how to best to show her how input the data
 - b. Compilation of results
 - i. Need up to date data entered through at least 2019
 - ii. Only entered through 6/1/2019 at this point
 - iii. Then we can look at the total data
 - c. Paul's App Energy Reporting
 - i. Lincoln resident with app to look at data that he has offered to the Town
 - ii. Jeff will reach out to GMP for the API Key for Town Accounts to provide access rights
 - iii. Celine is on board with utilizing the report and will send the note for permission to GMP
 - iv. Jeff will get Paul connected with the data he asked for
 - 1. Jeff will see if there are opportunities to input the data directly into Portfolio Manager
 - d. Celine Update
 - i. Jeff reached out to Celine (Treasurer) to get GMP information
 - ii. Celine will be retiring in 6 months
 - iii. She has been an advocate for solar and electrification of the Town
 - e. Recommendations and next steps
 - i. Richard should let Koran know that we're going to ask Celine
 - ii. Jeff will reach out to Celine, then bring in Celine to do a training
 - 1. Coordinate with Robyn
 - 2. Review manual options and Paul's tool
 - iii. Think about how to present results to the Town
 - 1. Compare to typical similar buildings
 - 2. How much is offset with solar
5. Solar PV
- a. Jerusalem Schoolhouse renovation is delayed due to Covid and Town finances
 - b. The Town owns 6 All-Earth PV trackers
 - c. We are waiting for the ESPM analysis to be complete before determining what to recommend
 - d. Plans for approaching Select Board

- i. Finish benchmarking analysis first
 - e. Trackers grazing/trimming for 2020 notice in FPF
 - i. The town doesn't want the liability
 - ii. Wait until next spring to set up volunteer clearing day
- 6. Update on review the zoning by-law to make sure it's in compliance with the energy section of the Town Plan
 - a. Richard will check with Andrew L'Roe at the ACRPC about
 - i. Whether our Energy Plan complies with the state standards for substantial deference
 - ii. Do our zoning bylaws conflict with the energy sections?
 - iii. Figure out where the Energy Committee fits within the Town Plan?
 - b. We should compare the Town Plan and Zoning Bylaw for areas of mis-matches or conflicts
 - i. For example, roof orientation conflicts between solar and historic
 - c. Could this be a project that an intern could work on?
 - d. Anything we do to follow up after should be run by Planning Commission
- 7. Starksboro Residents' House Weatherization Projects
 - a. Pete was not present to provide an update
- 8. Button Up Campaign/Workshop Plans for 2020
 - a. Robyn is working on the campaign this year for her employer, Efficiency Vermont
 - b. "Neighbors helping neighbors"
 - c. Virtual visits by EVT staff
 - d. FPF postings, Facebook postings, outreach
 - e. Virtual resources
 - f. Participation would enable us to access to resources
 - g. Promotion of Button Up would enable us to access virtual audits
 - h. Megan moved to join the Campaign, Jeff seconded, all approved
- 9. Other business
 - a. None
- 10. Next meeting
 - a. Oct 5
- 11. Adjourned at 7:38 pm