

Starksboro Energy Committee

5:30 p.m. Monday November 13, 2023

Virtual Teams Meeting

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1. Attendees
  - a. Richard Faesy
  - b. Jeff Dunham
  - c. Robyn King
  - d. Richard Warren
2. Public Comments
  - a. None
3. Approve Minutes from 8/14/23, 9/11/23, & 10/9/23 Meetings
  - a. Robyn moved to approve all minutes
  - b. Jeff seconded
  - c. Approved unanimously
4. Transitioning ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager to the Town
  - a. Jeff will follow up with Rebecca to give her the password to access the town's electric account
    - i. He has access to all 9 town buildings plus the solar farm and streetlights for a total of 11
    - ii. He can change the password then give it to the town and Megan
    - iii. Jeff will follow up with Rebecca to give her access
  - b. Rebecca Elder's Email from 11/13:
    - i. Hi all,
    - ii. There is no further MERP update. Waiting for the assessments to be scheduled for the Food Shelf and J school.
    - iii. Once the analysis for current town usage is complete, we will manage the energy credits at the office between Nancy and me and the entry of Energy Star info so let's connect about that hand off in January.
    - iv. ARPA funds were not designated for the solar panels on the pavilion. We will need to consider that in the future but not in the coming year. Having the data from Tom and Robert will be helpful in thinking about funding opportunities later.
5. Allocating Solar Credits to Town Buildings
  - a. Working with Green Mountain Power to Access Town and Solar Electric Data
  - b. Coordinating with Robert Turner to Set Up a System
    - i. Robert was out of town tonight but might be willing to help with setting this up
  - c. Jeff will meet with Rebecca and Nancy Boss to:
    - i. Share access to Town GMP account
    - ii. Review current solar allocations
    - iii. Call GMP to ask how to change the allocations
    - iv. Make adjustment between buildings so we don't lose credits

- v. Jeff will copy Richard F. and Robert to have them come if available
  - d. Three phase power going into Hanksville for Heffernan's sugarhouse
- 6. Grant Updates
  - a. [Act 172](#) (MERP Grant)
    - i. Waiting for audits, per Rebecca's email above.
  - b. ARPA Town Grant Submissions
    - i. Pavilion Solar Roof
      - 1. No go did not get funded
    - ii. Starksboro Public Library Energy and Ventilation Project
      - 1. No go did not get funded
    - iii. Jerusalem Schoolhouse
      - 1. Will be audited along with the Food Shelf
      - 2. Rebecca is waiting for the auditor to schedule
- 7. Harvest Festival 10/21/23
  - a. Energy Committee didn't have much traffic at our table
  - b. Wildlife presentation was great, though
- 8. Robinson School Heat Pump Water Heaters
  - a. No word from the Superintendent's Office
    - i. Joel Fitzgerald is non-responsive
    - ii. Richard had Efficiency Vermont (Steve Spatz) call Joel's contractor to talk about some benefits and details installing heat pump water heaters.
- 9. Weatherization Campaign Plans
  - a. Front Porch Forum & Energy Corner Postings
  - b. Button Up Campaign – See Brad Long's email from 8/16/23
    - i. Awesome to hear that Starksboro is going to participate in Button Up this year! With our increased weatherization incentives, it's a perfect time to get the word out. Things are a little different this year – it's less about signing up and more about getting the word out, and with some of our tools and resources, we believe it will be easier for everyone and more engaging. <https://www.buttonupvermont.org/partners> - the site has been re-vamped and includes marketing/outreach resources, a co-op budget for advertising or supplies, our Weatherization Wednesday's virtual events and a place for any town to list any Button Up events they may be hosting. Check out the link in the previous sentence and I think you'll find what you need in terms of getting going. If not, let me know and I'll be happy to talk you through any questions you may have.
  - c. Robyn Reported
    - i. Mostly webinar series that has concluded so far
    - ii. There was a lot of interest from across the state
    - iii. There is not a lack of demand, but of customer appreciation for starting and ending points
    - iv. Addison County CEAC is working on a liaison program
    - v. Should Starksboro have our own Weatherization Liaison person?
    - vi. Contractors note a spring slowdown that may be a better time of year when they are less busy
    - vii. Energy Liaison is of interest
    - viii. CEAC is in fact-finding mode
    - ix. More challenging aspect will be the workforce to do the work

- x. There are some local contractors
    - 1. Havestar
    - 2. Tom Perry
    - 3. Reiss Building
  - xi. Robyn is willing to follow up with CEAC
    - 1. EVT can circulate slide decks for how to start offering liaison services
    - 2. She will follow up with what the Energy Committee members could offer
  - d. Rich Warren
    - i. ACRPC has had some CEAC discussions
    - ii. CEAC organizers:
      - 1. Spence Puntnam
      - 2. Richard Hutchins
  - e. ACORN Energy
    - i. Had Bristol project
    - ii. Looking for subscribers
    - iii. Reached out to Richard F. to ask for some advice on where to go
10. Other business
- a. Meeting House Preschool Renovations
    - i. Jeff is available
      - 1. 11/21 or 11/22 at 8,8:30, or 9:00
      - 2. Wednesday would work better for Rich
      - 3. Invite Jeff and Rich
  - b. IR Camera at the Library for loaning
    - i. Jeff has one for his iPhone if someone wants to borrow it
    - ii. Rich suggests the Library carry one
    - iii. Think about how to fund it, maybe MERP funds
11. Next meeting – 12/11/23
- a. Robyn could attend meetings if they were later
  - b. Rich would prefer starting later
    - i. Would encourage us to be more efficient with time
    - ii. 7-8 is a possibility
  - c. Richard ask what time would work for Robyn