

Rye Energy Committee

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 11, 2018
6:30-8:00 PM, Rye Public Library

Attending – Danna Truslow, Howard Kalet, Michael Joyce, Carl Nicolino, Tom Pfau, Matt Marra

1. July 2018 meeting minutes approval – approved by all present
2. Website update – Michael reported on his meeting with Janice Ireland regarding updating the REC web page. He expects the changes will be made by our next meeting. He also has created a Google drive and would like to use its email address to archive documents. He listed the changes and we agreed. He has also set up a Facebook page.
3. Municipal building audit update
 - a. oil tank monitors – Matt reported that Tank Clarity oil tank monitors are a one-time fixed cost. Tom proposed a meeting with Dennis McCarthy to discuss the town's oil supplier and oil tank monitors. We agreed that the REC would pay for the cost if it was not in the budget of the departments.
 - b. lighting audits - Tom agreed to contact the building managers and Mark Toussant of Eversource re a lighting audit.
4. Historic District Commission meeting – Danna reported that although the next HDC meeting is October 18 that we need to do more research about what other towns have done about solar panels in historic districts before meeting with them. She will reach out to the NH planning community via the planlink listserve.
5. Public education session ideas - Michael suggested a speaker for a public education event at the Library in December or January. He will forward us suggested topics.
6. Unitil gas line update – Howard reported on his meeting with Unitil and the estimate he received for running a natural gas line down Lang Rd to Washington St. It's a 2.5 mile run that would cost \$75 per foot or about \$1.1 million. Unitil would pay about \$250,000 and the town would be responsible for the remainder. Estimating the Return On Investment would be difficult as it would that municipal building heating systems would have to be converted to natural gas. It appears to be a high cost, long term project that may not be economically viable.
7. Member terms – Danna prepared a list of member terms and term end dates. The committee approved the terms. The list of terms and contact information for members is attached to these minutes.

Update on committee membership - after the meeting we heard from David Helfrich regarding his membership on the committee. He feels his current work load will not allow for meaningful participation and will be withdrawing for the time being.

8. Municipal solar installation update – Tom reported that he had contacted ReVision Energy to inquire about the state incentives. He was told the incentives are still inadequate to make an array on the landfill economically viable. He said he would inquire about the viability of solar panels on the Transfer Station garage.
9. New business – Matt suggested we investigate a resident group discount for generators.