

Rye Energy Committee

Meeting Notes

Tuesday, December 10, 2019
6:30 – 8:00 PM, Rye Public Library

Attending: Howard Kalet, Tom Pfau, Michael Joyce, Carl Nicolino, Lisa Sweet (Member in Process)

The November meeting minutes were approved.

Lighting Update: The Rye Jr. High School is now 100% complete. The remaining municipal buildings projects will begin their respective lighting re-fittings in early 2020.

Prospective member Lisa Sweet was in attendance and will be submitting her letter of membership to The Town of Rye.

Clean Energy Discussion: The majority of the December meeting was spent discussing the potential options, and next steps for using cleaner sourced/ powered electricity for both municipal buildings and residents.

A couple of the REC members have been engaged in discussions with regional energy experts to further vet the progress of the research, and preliminary findings regarding the various alternative, and possibly cleaner, energy options including solar, aggregated power supply, and offshore wind. A representative for Standard Power was very valuable and suggested right-sizing a couple of the key locations included in the Revision Solar proposal could further strengthen the case to be made for solar installations.

It was decided by the group that the best next step would be to hold meetings with various stakeholders to understand their respective feedback on a number of options, specifically the solar proposal delivered by Revision Energy for installing solar panels at (5) Rye municipal locations. Depending on the outcome of those meetings, the REC would then meet with Rye Board of Selectmen to present its findings and discuss possible next steps if any.

Meetings with the Rye Water District, Rye School Board have been scheduled (tentatively scheduled) for Wednesday December 18th, and with the Rye Board of Selectmen for December 23rd. Additionally, the RFP response from Revision Energy will be shared with each group ahead of the meeting and discussed.

Rye Energy Group is planning to participate in the Rye Civic League and hoping to contribute \$25 as a membership pledge. An additional membership to the NH Clean Energy Group was being discussed but would need confirmation of available budget funds before making any such commitments.

The next regular REC meeting will be held Tuesday January 7th at 6:30 at the Rye Public Library.