

Rye Energy Committee

Meeting Notes

Tuesday, January 7, 2020
6:30 – 8:00 PM, Rye Public Library

Attending: Howard Kalet (arrived late due to another town meeting), Tom Pfau, Michael Joyce, Carl Nicolino, Lisa Sweet (Member in Process)

The December meeting minutes were approved.

Prospective member Lisa Sweet is to be presented to the Board of Selectmen on January 13.

Solar Proposal Update: Howard and Tom spoke about the proposal with energy brokers Standard Power, Freedom Energy and Tradition Energy as well as energy consultant Dick Henry. The energy brokers all had positive reactions, except Standard Power expressed reservations about sizing; they felt proper sizing could make a good proposal into a great one. Dick Henry suggested re-issuing the RFP without requiring a PPA. He thought this would result in a lower priced system that the Town could finance itself without the federal tax benefits.

Howard and Tom presented the proposal to the Water District and School Board on December 18. The Water District expressed willingness to let the Town use the proposed WD land for a solar array, but they were unwilling to administer a solar installation. The School Board expressed strong interest in proceeding with the proposal.

On December 23, Howard and Tom presented their findings to the Board of Selectmen. The BOS had a positive reaction but felt there was too little time to adequately review it prior to the Deliberative Session. They asked the REC to continue its due diligence and requested a copy of a PPA (Power Purchase Agreement) to better understand the type of contract being proposed.

The idea was suggested to have a presentation by ReVision for stakeholders and residents to learn more about the proposal. The BOS agreed to such a meeting later in February after the Deliberative Session.

Those interested in contributing to The Rye Civic League can do so as individuals. The current budget for the REC stands at \$130 and has asked the BOS for an additional \$500 for 2020 to fund initiatives, including membership in Clean Energy NH.

The next regular REC meeting will be held Tuesday, February 4th, at 6:30 at the Rye Public Library.