

Center Harbor Energy Committee Minutes of Meeting – 7 December 2017

Attendees: Annette Nichols, Carol Sullivan, Chris Williams, Bernie Volz and Selectmen Representative Richard Drenkhahn.

Annette called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

On-going Business:

Approval of Minutes. The minutes of the meeting of November 2nd were approved.

Library Lighting Upgrades Update. Annette reported that the lighting refurbishments are done, so the project is completely finished. The Library Trustees are extremely pleased with the results!

Town Garage Energy Savings Opportunity. The Selectmen approved the proposal from the Energy Committee (see November minutes). Carol submitted the application to the NHEC and it was approved 2 days later. The contractors (Newell and Raynor) have been notified. Carol reported that Newell expects to begin the work on January 8th; they will let her know if it will be any earlier. The status of Raynor's portion is not known and it is assumed Jeff Haines will work this out with them. The one consideration is that per the NHEC program, work needs to be completed with 90 days of approval.

Bernie to follow up with Jeff Haines about Raynor schedule and also confirm that he has worked out with Newell as to any preparations needed (moving items away from concrete foundation walls, etc.).

New Business:

Button Up Workshop (12/6/17 @ 6pm in Meredith Community Center). Annette reported that she and Carol attended this workshop. It was not well attended (~12 area residents attended). There was a handout provided that had good material - what looks to be similar, if not the same, handout is available at http://www.plymouthenergy.org/BU_Presentation.pdf. There was a discussion about NHSaves.com programs (in conjunction with local utilities) and that people should take advantage of these – as the program can pay 50% of the energy efficiency costs, up to \$4000.

Lakes Region Planning Commission Energy Consolidation Opportunity. The LRPC has put together a program to provide for member municipalities to purchase power in bulk (as a group) to save costs. Richard explained that the Town had tried an alternative supplier, only to have NHEC reduce rates shortly thereafter and the Town was stuck paying the higher rates for the 2 year contract – so he would have reservations about joining such a program. It isn't clear whether the Town (Selectmen) were fully in the loop on this LRPC program. **Annette to contact Center Harbor's LRPC representative (Mark Hildebrand)** to let him know to pass on any energy related items to the EC.

Chris Williams asked whether the LRPC program might be expanded to include commercial and residential customers. **Carol offered to contact LRPC** to discuss this with them.

Other Business:

Review Center Harbor Master Plan Energy Chapter. (See <http://www.centerharbornh.org/planning-board/files/master-plan-chapter-8-energy>.) The committee discussed several sections of the chapter and generally found the material to be useful and recommendations to be in line with Energy Committee activities.

Review Energy Committee Recommendations handout with building permits.

(See https://www.centerharbornh.org/sites/centerharbornh/files/uploads/energy_tips.pdf.) Annette suggested we just replace this with the NHSaves.com application as it had many useful tips and would make people aware of the incentives available. The committee feels the current sheet (developed in late 2009) is now outdated and needs to be updated – perhaps incorporating some of the NHSaves.com materials. Annette asked with **Carol would be willing to do a first pass** at updating and condensing the handout – Carol agreed.

The meeting adjourned about 8:55 pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for January 4th, 2018 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Bernie Volz, December 9th, 2017.

Note: Items in red are to flag actions needed.