

Sunderland Energy Committee (SEC) Meeting

February 16, 2022

Minutes

Meeting called to order 7:02pm

Present-

Committee members- Jeff Dexter, Noah Forest, Andrew McKeever, John Herrington and Becca Herrington

Special Guests- solar experts Bill Laberge and Jim Hand

Minutes secretary- Becca Herrington

The suggestion of recording the SEC meetings to post on town website was made— Jeff to talk to Susan to see if this is possible

Solar possibilities and funding for town buildings- led by Bill Laberge and Jim Hand

First step is to get an energy audit of the buildings to determine where the building is losing energy and address areas of concern. Heat Squad was suggested as a possible company to perform energy audit

Determine goals- Resiliency-independence from utility companies, saving money by eliminating costs, creation of emergency center in the event of power outages through installation of heat pumps and battery storage capabilities, the capability to refrigerate medications for residences during power outages.

Roof analysis site visit by solar installation expert to determine the capacity in terms of number of solar panels. Via the internet, Bill Laberge viewed the town hall and suggested upon a cursory look that the roof of the town hall should have plenty of capacity to hold the number of solar panels needed but a site visit is necessary.

Funding possibilities-

Efficiency Vermont

Green Mountain Power

State of Vermont

Vermont Bond Bank for town loan

Contact Kathleen James and Seth Bongartz, State Representatives for Sunderland to find out the status of various bills for funding. Bill S232-Energy Standard Bill, Bill S233-Clean Heat Standard

Town Meeting-

Jeff to contact Jon French to get on the agenda for town meeting to deliver a brief presentation of the SEC work

Youth Update- Noah Forest

In communication with Environmental Club Advisor, Jillian Joyce to find a student representative from Sunderland or Arlington to join our SEC as Noah is off to college in four months.

Future Workshops/Seminars in the spring/summer of 2022-

Combine efforts with Arlington Energy Committee to have a outdoor event at the Arlington Rec Park

Themes-

Home equipment such as electric lawn mowers, leaf blowers, etc.

E bikes

E cars

Minute Secretary for next SEC meeting on March 30, 2022 at 7pm- Jeff Dexter

Meeting adjourned: 8:15pm