

**Sunderland Energy Committee  
Minutes  
August 29, 2023 Meeting**

**7:05pm Call meeting**

Appoint Secretary: Dan Levering

Approved minutes from previous meeting: John moved, Andrew 2nd

**Mini Grant Update:**

For our Forum and Survey.

Money coming to Town Clerk shortly

**Forum Update:** Thursday Oct. 26th

Speakers in place: Confirmed

Neale Lunderville...: CEO, VT Gas

Becca White: State Senator

Jared Duval: Energy Action Network

Julie Moore: Sec'y of the VT Agency of Natural Resources

Possible black-up: Laura Sevillia represents Readsboro, Stamford

Lodging: Jeff to research cost (Arcady, Hill Farm, Ethan Allen)

Meal: Kat to research possible meal argt's. Andrew to chk with Library.

Committee plus 4 speakers to have a meal together beforehand. 5-6pm to arrive at the Library for 6:30pm.

Manchester Library booked for the forum 7-9pm.

Meal:

Kate suggests hors d'oeuvres prior to the event rather than dinner and will research dining options nearby, Ye Olde Tavern or Gringo Jacks for heavy Hors d'oeuvres for 12-15ppl.

Andrew to check setup needs at Library, panelist guest list, time of arrival, interest in dinner.

Advertising:

Statewide to Bennington Banner, Manchester Journal, VT Digger, GNAT, local town managers and others.

Andrew to write an updated press release to send out.

Format:

Jeff to introduce. 45 minutes of panel questions, 45 minutes of audience questions, Panelist closing remarks for 1-2 minutes each.

Aspirations/Goals:

Discuss reducing independence on fossil fuels. Civil civic discourse, to debate respectfully.

**MERP Act 172 Assessments:**

Jan15th deadline has been moved up to Oct 31st to apply for energy assessments (a/k/a energy audit). Our Town garage already completed an energy audit so may only need to have that report reviewed. A full, level 2 Energy audit for Town Hall.

Energy audits need State approval and are required if we are to request Act 172 (MERP) funding to make our two buildings more energy efficient and self-reliant.

**Green Procurement:**

The proposal to be presented to the Select Board for review is complete and unanimously agreed upon. The proposal will be a Memorandum of Understanding rather than a Policy.

Select Board meeting: Sept 11th. The document may be ready for the board for discussion at the October meeting. If not, it will be presented at the next SB meeting.

SEC board votes to send the proposal to the Select Board. Jeff will contact Dixie to get it on the Agenda.

**Window Dressers: Andrew**

9/29/23

Jeff to send out sign-up sheets for volunteers to build window inserts at the American Legion.

While the goal is to build 250 window inserts, the number of "secured inserts" has dropped to 225.

**Set next meeting:**

Wednesday 9/20/2023 7pm Zoom

8:25pm Adjournment