

## **Minutes from the 5/29 Sunderland Energy Committee meeting.**

### **Sunderland Energy Committee Regular Meeting Minutes, 5/29/2024**

The meeting (via Zoom) was called to order by Chair Jeff Dexter at 7:06 pm  
Present: Jeff Dexter, Andrew McKeever, Dan Levering

Andrew McKeever volunteered to take Minutes.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted. Jeff had amended the Minutes to include initial survey numbers of the recently conducted survey of Sunderland residents by the committee soliciting input on areas the committee should focus on. A discussion continued on how to generate more responses and how to now reply to residents asking for more info. Unfortunately, very few respondents gave contact info. A working meeting may be scheduled for committee members to discuss this further.

The upcoming Arlington Energy & Resilience Fair was discussed. It will be held June 1<sup>st</sup> at the Arlington Common. Jeff and Andrew will attend, with a large array of battery-powered garden tools.

Jeff is arranging for an electric mower to be present as well from John's Building Supply in Pittsfield, MA.

Scheduling a date for the Williams College tour was discussed and will occur later in the year.

Dan announced he and Kat would be moving soon and would no longer be able to be active members of the committee. Jeff and Andrew thanked them for their dedication and hard work on the Committee and wished them the best. A search for 2-3 new committee members will start shortly.

Green Up Day 2024 (May 4<sup>th</sup>) was discussed. It was very successful. It's estimated that 90 bags containing 620 lbs of litter were gathered on all major town roads. (While, officially according to Marc Johnston, 62 bags were disposed of by his department, 90 bags is an estimate because we're waiting to hear back from ORVIS and GMP regarding how many volunteers participated and how many bags ORVIS disposed of themselves. Andrew will try to reach out to a contact at Orvis to determine this.)

Plans for an upcoming forum later this year were discussed. Jeff said the idea of having people describe their energy transition success stories might be one angle. There is \$3,100 in MERP money left to finance a forum or, as discussed, possibly beefing up our webpage (both of which are allowed by the MERP guidelines). Another possible topic Andrew mentioned was discussion of the long term plan for a State renewable energy standard. The forum would again be in late October at the Manchester Community Library. Conversation to be continued.

A discussion of Committee member work expectations was tabled until the next meeting.

A brief discussion of our Town's emergency resilience plan, as it pertains to energy-related issues, was discussed. Andrew will research this a bit more.

The meeting adjourned at 8 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 26, at 7pm via zoom. (Post note: This meeting will be re-scheduled for mid-July when we hope to have new committee members.)