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<b>Meeting called by:</b> Doc Bagley	<b>Type of meeting:</b> SEC special meeting
<b>Facilitator:</b> Doc Bagley	<b>Note taker:</b> Jim

**Attendees:** Doc Bagley, David Lutz, Kevin Grady, Janet Cavanagh, Jim Schley  
**Next Meeting:** Nov 20, 2018: Energy Committee meeting

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*Minutes*

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**Agenda items:**

**1. Button Up Weatherizing Campaign Kick off report:** We had sixteen people including committee members (six households not committee people) on Nov 8. 7 pm to 8.30 pm. Paul Markowitz of Efficiency Vermont and two contractors attended Brent Mellen of Building Energy, Thetford; and Bruce Merrit of Build Basic Green, West Lebanon.

People seem daunted by the forms, especially those who might be eligible for Capstone or the ButtonUp subsidies. Documentation is needed: proof of ownership, income statement, fuel bill, etc. If a household is already getting fuel assistance, they already income-qualified, which simplifies the application.

Janet helped Peggy Thorpe fill out an application, and Jim will help Lee Funston. David will give Chris Rice a ring to see if he could use some help.

Committee members who had expenses (i.e. DAVID's printing, mailing and other costs) should send these to DOC for reimbursement.

What is the appeal we need to make? The savings will pay for the expense, plus you'll be more comfortable. "HOW LONG ARE YOUR ICICLES GETTING?" "DID YOU EVER THAW YOUR TURKEY?" "HOW MANY COATS DO YOU NEED IN YOUR HOUSE?"

Outreach to do:

a. JANET: Senior Lunch — Janet will look into attending on November 28 and explain CAPSTONE.

b. JIM: New list-serv announcement and STRAFFORD NEWS emphasizing that there's still time before the December 25 deadline, and explaining that Energy Committee members will help with application questions. We'll include the two-page questionnaire in the STRAFFORD NEWS, too.

c. KEVIN: will go to the library on Saturday morning, November 24. KEVIN will also modify the questionnaire to say that questionnaires can be dropped off in an envelope on the bulletin board next to the Coburns' post office.

e. DOC: Lions Club — will investigate what their meeting schedule is to set them up with the questionnaire and Capstone information.

f. Roadside signs continue to be at the Library, at the Mason's Hall, at Melvin and Sue's house, and at several committee member driveways.

**2. Enhanced Energy Plan:** The process and plan is completed; Two Rivers Ottauquechee has reviewed and approved their recommended version. This now needs to be presented to the Planning Commission (DOC will confer with Steve Willbanks about this) in preparation for a presentation to the Select Board, which DOC and KEVIN would do at a January meeting.

A limiting factor is three-phase powerline access, but there are sites close enough; if the town has approved the plan and a landowner is ready to proceed, this would facilitate getting an approval.

The Thetford-Strafford Community Solar is looking at a second site, which is on the Thetford map as a "preferred site," which may help with permitting but Janet says there's presently essentially no financial benefits to being a preferred site, because of present Public Utility Commission policies.

**3. Other business:**

a. Juliana v. US: lawsuit by group of young people based on constitutional requirement that government protect the public good and widespread leasing of federal lands for offshore drilling, fracking, and detrimental practices. What

is in the Vermont Constitution and how can we use some of this language to urge action from Gov. Scott and the legislature for in-state harms and practices? KEVIN.

b. Strafford Energy Committee 2019 Budget request from Town: DOC received a letter from the Select Board inviting a budget line item. Committee feels that a \$500 request would be helpful.

c. VECAN conference at Lake Morey on December 1: DAVID will go; very inspiring (speakers and vendors) last year.

d. Windowdressers program, update: KEVIN has been in touch, but it would make most sense to have a group from Strafford and Thetford go visit the project in Maine together (ideally to see one of the volunteer assembly events). As is, their expansion to Vermont seems like more than they can manage right now. The main expense is the wood, if labor is largely volunteer, including the laser measuring of people's windows. In Maine they have a special deal for low-cost millwork, and we could potentially buy and truck from them, or possibly make arrangements with a mill in our state.

DOC will talk with Paul Marcuvitz about this as a potential project for Efficiency Vermont.

e. DOC received an email from a fellow in the Dartmouth Sustainability Office, interested in setting up a visit by students (ranging from first years to PhDs) to the Elizabeth Mine site. Doc will refer them to Bill Bushnell of GW Energy, Dori's partner as the developer. KEVIN also offered to talk to them.

**Next meeting:** SEC Mtg December 11, 2018: 7:00 Town Clerks office

The meeting adjourned at 8:57 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Jim Schley