

Strafford Energy & Climate Committee (SECC) Meeting Minutes

10/8/19

7:00 PM

Strafford Town Hall

Meeting called by: Doc Bagley

Type of meeting: SEC meeting

Facilitator: Doc Bagley

Note taker: Jim

Attendees: Doc Bagley, David Lutz, Kevin Grady, Barbara Smith, Matt Christie, Gus Speth, Jim Schley

Next Meeting: October 8, 2019: Energy Committee meeting

Minutes

Agenda items:

1. **Minutes:** Review minutes from September. Approved.

2. **Pocket Park update, Barbara:** Wonderful gathering to thank the volunteers. Meeting with the Selectboard: they had proposed switching the endowment (almost \$6,000) to be managed by the Trustees for Public Funds; but they're saying that the land is owned by the town.

3. WindowDressers update, Doc & Kevin:

- Outreach update: Doc is going to talk to the Seniors lunch tomorrow. Tom Kinder has reached out to congregation members.
- Number of participants to date: 14 people signed up, so far. Likely to reach 100 windows limit soon.
- House visits under way: Barbara and Wally, David, Kevin, and Doc and Heather have been measuring. This program is reaching a number of people who don't have the means to do extensive weatherization.
- Fundraising: \$750 grant from New England Grassroots Environmental Fund; still waiting to hear from Mascoma Bank. Already have nearly \$2,500 for subsidizing low-income qualified residents.
- Kevin will go to Maine to help build jigs this coming weekend; those will stay there so we can keep the ones that come here.
- Materials will be dropped by the people taking materials to Charlotte.
- Workshop: In the North Thetford Church, January 4–12, 2020. We need 12 volunteers at a time, with two 4-hour sessions per day (with lunch break); to sign up for shifts, contact Doc, David, or Kevin. (Kevin visited the Glover workshop, where they were making 300 windows for Glover, Craftsbury, and Greensboro).
- We sent out 15 LIHEAP letters to low-income prospects (Thetford has 52 LIHEAP recipients).

4. Climate Strike, "Zero Emissions by 2030": Update by Gus

- Letter from Strafford Climate Strike Planning Group to the Selectboard, 9/11/19. The board voted "to support the spirit and intent of the letter," and the committee is now drafting a resolution that would be presented at town meeting, including a provision that the Energy and Climate Committee will report to the Selectboard periodically with progress reports on the town's goal to be carbon neutral by 2030.
- Report on initiatives to involve farms and forestry community; Shannon Varley and B. J. Miller would like to come to our December meeting. We'd like to invite county forester David Paganelli and forester Tii McLane.

5. **Enhanced Energy Plan:** Doc plans to deliver our draft with Bob Walker to Dee Gish on October 14 when they go to measure the windows of the TRORC office.

6. **Town Office Renovation update:** Still at the conceptual stage. Doc has asked Matt to keep in touch with Toni Pippy about their ideas and plans. It would also be good to review the Town Garage again. Doc has the information on how much propane they burn.

7. Schools energy initiative update: Jim has talked with teacher Erik Reimanis and they'll talk further as the new principal and programs get established. One hope would be to have a youth representative (or several) on our committee. Matt is also interested in helping with a curriculum.

8. Proposed multi-town energy manager (seven towns now involved): Nick Clark's proposal was approved by the Selectboard. This will be on the warrant for our town meeting; Strafford's share would be about \$7,000 per year.

Other Business:

9. The name "Strafford Energy and Climate Committee": according to town clerk Lisa Bragg, this isn't a "legal" name. Doc is looking into what we need to do to officially change "Strafford Energy Committee" to the new name, which the Selectboard approved.

10. Carbon Offsets: David will look into Third-Party Certification procedures to see what's involved if donations to WindowDressers could be counted for offsets.

11. Next SECC meetings – Nov 5th – run by Kevin in Doc's absence; Dec 17th – to include farm / forest agenda

Adjourned: 8:16 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Jim Schley