

Town of Canterbury, NH  
Energy Committee  
Date: 2024 February 5  
Location: Meeting House

Members Present:

Jeff Beltramo (Chair), Fred Portnoy, Claudia Leidinger, Kent Ruesswick (Selectboard Representative), Ruth Heath (Alternate), Beth McGuinn

Others Present:

Rachel Baker (Library Director)

1. Administration

- a. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.
- b. Previous Minutes Approval
  - i. Changes
    1. Change line 34 to say that the grant was received from NH Interfaith Power and Light.
    - ii. Kent made a motion to approve the minutes as amended for the Energy Committee meeting on January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Fred seconded. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.
- c. Ruth Heath was made a voting member due to Howard Moffett's absence.

2. Town Building Heating Project

- a. See Energy Committee Minutes 1/8/24 Section 9 for previous discussion.
- b. Rachel Baker attended to discuss changing the heating system for the Library to a mini-split.
- c. The Library currently uses a 2004 propane forced hot air burning system.
- d. Burner 3 broke last October and was repaired.
- e. Rachel uses the Level 1 energy audit from 2021 frequently. It was only Level 1, but it was very thorough and led to changes such as removing the old fridge and proposing WA-2024-18 to replace the mini-split in the Historical Society room.
- f. Rachel got an estimate for the mini-split when [Rowell's](#) did the estimate for the Historical Society mini-split. They estimated \$23,000 for 3 units inside and one outside. It would use the same ductwork that is currently in place.
- g. Rachel is looking for grants that would cover the cost of this project and would like the Energy Committee's help for deciding on the best heating system.
- h. Currently there are 3 zones. There is AC that is separate from the burner, but it uses the same ductwork.
- i. There are no return vents in the floor of Zone 2, so the heat isn't sinking. 2 of the 4 in the other zones are also not-functional.
- j. The building envelope recommendations from the 2021 audit were not completed. Those should probably be included in this project.
- k. There was debate about if it would be better to use the existing ductwork and fix the cold air return or not.
  1. There is no circuit rider for our area, but it would still be worth asking Clean Energy NH for help with getting grants.
- m. It may be possible to get a 30% tax rebate for this project too.
- n. There may need to be a Level 2 audit depending on which grants she applies for.

3. Window Dressers

- a. See Energy Committee Minutes 1/8/24 Section 8 for previous discussion.
- b. Ruth and Claudia made a poster to display at Town Meeting.

- c. Claudia asked Loudon Energy Committee if they would like to collaborate on this project, but they weren't interested because they are busy with starting Community Power.
- d. They could still reach out to Belmont's Energy Committee and the Loudon Lions Club.
- e. Finding a location is the next biggest challenge. This event needs a 30x50 ft space with 9ft ceilings for 7 full days. They can't set a date until they lock down a space.
- f. The Committee discussed measuring the Town Hall and inquiring with the Snow Shakers about renting their space.
- g. Maybe the date could be announced at the Town Meeting on March 15<sup>th</sup>.
4. Ruth attended the [NH Network](#) online workshop for Environment, Energy, Climate
  - a. She learned about a bunch of grants that could be helpful for a variety of projects.
  - b. There is still \$400 million available for [GoFERR](#) grants available in NH.
  - c. The video is available online, Ruth will forward link.
5. Committee Goals
  - a. The Committee discussed what the goals and mission of the Committee should be. Clearly defining this would help prioritize projects and focus on which grants to go after.
6. Adjournment
  - a. The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Next Meeting: 2023 March 4, 7:00 p.m. at Meeting House

Minutes submitted by Kathleen McKay, Secretary