

## Lee Energy Committee Meeting Minutes November 7, 2017

Present members: Chair Sharon Meeker, Barbara Wauchope and Mary Woodward

Absent members: Lou Grondin and Selectman Brown

Guests: Jana Petrovick and Laurel Cox

The minutes for August, September, and October, 2017 were approved

Barb commented that she liked the NRDC energy chart that was sent to the group, and Mary said she would request some hard copies to be used at our upcoming energy forum.

Cary mentioned that the Lee BOS has just approved the needed repair on the Public Safety Building (PSB) roof and that it will cost about \$1,000. The committee is waiting for the actual budget items costs to come in for the NHEC lighting project, and Jana said she would get in touch with the electricians who are going to get them as a part of their bid for the project. The trustees of the Lee trust funds need an analysis of the costs and benefits of replacing the fluorescent lights in the PSB with LED lights. They need that information before acting on the Lee Energy's request for funding.

All agreed with Sharon's modifications to the off-shore wind energy warrant language to focus on the "asks" first which is for the selectmen to) ask the governor tell the the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) that he will set up an offshore energy committee of state stakeholders to study and to move forward with the states of Massachusetts and Maine on including off-shore wind energy as a part of the energy mix that the state needs to attain resistance. Julie will be consulted regarding the proposed warrant and Sharon will make changes that she recommends and send it out to the committee. Sharon will ask Anika Barth and some of her friends to help when they come home college for the holiday break. Barb suggested that Annika could help prepare the outreach information and materials. Barb also suggested that an endorsement from the Seacoast Audubon Society would be helpful and Sharon will contact them. Sharon that the parallel actions in Portsmouth, Durham and Dover should also build momentum.

Sharon thinks that we should sponsor at least three outreach events starting with the one Mary is working on and to have one of the devoted to the warrant article and offshore energy.

Cary mentioned that the new Facilities Committee responsible for introducing the new plan for the town buildings issue will require input from the Energy Committee related to the cost/savings analysis of energy aspects of the project. The hope is to have a yes vote by March that will allow allocation of the funds sufficient for developing a model for the project. Sharon mentioned that some seacoast towns have pledged to pursue LEED standards with the construction of new town buildings.

Cary said that the base frame for the new swap shop is in place and that the cement will be poured this week. There was also discussion that the proposed area is fairly small and thus that the proposed mini-split heat pump could be replaced by propane heat. A small air conditioning unit will be including in the building.

Lou is ill at the moment but will upon his return to the committee he will arrange a meeting with Karen related to the solar project the group is reviewing. Some of our questions are: (1) Is the PSB roof appropriate for this kind of solar installation? (2) What are the merits of lease versus buy. (3) Once the lighting is improved, will we need less panels? (4) What is the likelihood that the town would pay for it? outright rather than leasing (Jana); (5) What is Durham's experience to date re: money saved by a lease-to-buy agreement that they have undertaken? There was some discussion about solar in general regarding the use of crop land and new

technologies and consideration that solar windows, roofs, roads might address these concerns in the near future.

Mary will write a response to the Trustees of the Trust, John Tappan to thank him for his response to our query and to let him know that will specifically address the “materiality” requirement once we have bids in hand. Sharon emphasized that when the lighting project is a “go” we should have outreach articles in appropriate media. The “State of Energy” panel was cancelled due to a storm; Mary will work with the speakers to reschedule it perhaps in the latter part of the first week of December. We will also pursue getting input for other desired topics at the meeting.