

Lyme Energy Committee
Minutes
Monday February 16,2009

Present: Sue MacKenzie, Simon Carr, Matt Brown, Gary Phetteplace, Mike Morton, Dan O'Hara, Carola Lea.

Absent: Becky Lovejoy

Energy Fair: May 16 on the Lyme Common

Discussion—we want to have the house tour again; plan should be much the same as last year, with some new people (Tony and Catherine Greenleaf, Sue MacKenzie, others?)
SERG raffle—Mike has been talking to Bob Walker (SERG director) about it. A possible plan would be to sell each ticket for \$10. If enough money were raised for an audit, the winner would get the audit. If not enough were raised, the winner would just get the money.

Simon said that Bob could sell the raffle at The Energy Fair, but that the Town can't be involved.

Action—we will continue to finalize plans in the next few months.

Local food

Carola reported that the local food initiative now had a farm to school focus under the direction of Michele Estes. She said that it was a fulfillment of LEC's "educational" charge: with a nudge from Carola and Becky a group of Lyme residents is becoming aware of the benefits of eating locally.

Membership

Carola said that David McManus was interested, that his birthday was today but he planned to come to the March meeting (March 16). She read his email giving his background in energy.

Infrared Scanner

Discussion: Matt reported that the fire dept had bought the scanner "to check out bodies in buildings." Michael Hinsley thought that it might have a use beyond the one it was purchased for, that it might be used to determine heat loss. Gary pointed out that that depended on the unit's level of sophistication. He said that the person using it must really understand it or he/she will jump to incorrect conclusions.

SERG has one but has people trained to use it.

Alan Greator is very experienced in using one

Dan pointed out that there might well be a conflict if the scanner was being used for weatherization at the same moment it was needed by the fire department.

Action: At Dan's suggestion, Matt will find out the unit's model # and email it to Gary who will let us know what he thinks about its usefulness for weatherization.

Photovoltaic Panels on the school roof

Matt said that Tom Hunton had told him that his company (American Capital Energy) wants to donate the panels. Tom said that a 15 kilowatt system would do 10-20% of the school's electrical use.

Simon pointed out that this was a school board matter. Matt said that Tom just wanted to run this by LEC to get the committee's thoughts about the idea.

Mike said that something similar had been done at the Marion Cross school. He mentioned a couple of problems, including having buttons where "little fingers" could reach them.

Several people mentioned being concerned about snow on the panels.

Budget

Carola thought that perhaps Bob Walker's request for \$250 from the Town for SERG could be included in next year's LEC budget request. Simon said that next year's budget is going to have to be carefully thought out.

There will be \$310 in LEC's pre-town meeting budget this year.

Library Shelf

Sue complimented Becky on the job she had done.

Dan talked about the shelf to which he is adding old issues of "Home Power" magazine.

After the meeting Sue and Carola realized that Town Meeting (Mar 10) will be before the next LEC meeting. Carola called Matt asking him to put together a poster with a graph/chart from the figures he or Tom Hunton have showing what the Town Garage's wood pellet boiler has saved. Matt graciously agreed to. He said he would also mention that the fuel being used is corn.

Respectfully submitted, /s/