

Final  
Minutes  
Lyme Energy Committee June 16, 2014

Present: Mark Bolinger, Matt Brown, Dan O'Hara, Robin Taylor, Gary Phettiplace Patty Jenks, Mike Novello

Mark called the meeting to order at 7:30

1. It was moved, and seconded that the Minutes of our May meeting be approved.

Action – Dan to send in.

2. Patty Jenks is representing the Selectboard as Sue has other town business.

No Action required.

3. Scott now has the data from the sensors installed in the Highway Garage and Mark has seen it. The data is in spreadsheet form with data points every 5 minutes from several sensors so there is a lot of it – unfortunately there is no time/date stamp so it is not coordinated with the weather. It may be possible to get the information into a better format – perhaps graphical. Relative humidity data shows levels up to 80 percent. Possible ways of correlating the data with weather conditions were discussed.

Action – Scott will try to figure out the actual dates for the data and Mark will contact Mike Smith to see if he still collects and logs local weather data (Patty thinks he does) Gary will then look at the data to see if there is a way to determine whether the temperature reaches the dew point at the moisture barrier.

4. The New Hampshire Wood Council recently circulated a message regarding the conversion of municipal buildings to wood fired boilers. Mark has circulated it to the committee, and all should review it. There is assistance available for this and we should consider how onerous the application process is. One thing that might be appropriate is a containerized wood chip system for the fire station since the town uses a lot of fuel there and the building may be replaced in a few years.

Action – All to review the circulated message.

5. State Energy Policy - Mike discussed this effort by the state legislature to have an updated energy policy document. There have been hearings on this, one was in Lebanon but nobody from this committee attended. Mike did attend one in Concord and has a copy of the draft document which should be finalized in July6. The document is short on specifics and does not suggest goals or meaningful initiatives to reduce our dependence on imported energy. It was noted that neighboring states have much better defined policies in this regard, notably Massachusetts where the governor has taken a strong position in favor of an aggressive and forward looking policy and Vermont where there are programs such as “Better Buildings by Design” and “Efficiency Vermont” that the state funds rather than having the funds go to the utilities as is the case in NH.

Action Mike to draft a few brief comments for this committee to submit regarding things we have noticed here in Lyme that might be done in the state to facilitate EE and RE

without having to spend a great deal of money. Ideas we discussed include Solarize, something on RECs and maybe something on wood heating.

6, Possibility of solarizing town buildings. There are not as many incentives available to encourage this: the town does not pay taxes so those incentives do not apply and the power is billed at a lower rate so net metering returns are less. Further discussion of this is deferred to the next meeting when Sue will be present.

Action – discuss next meeting.

7 Solarize Lyme update. There are now 27 installations signed up and several pending. The total signed up is 130 KW which is more than half way through tier 4, so the prospects of reaching tier 5 (150 KW) and realizing the best pricing for all participants is good. The “thermometer“ sign on the common is good, and should be filled in to show that the program is more than halfway through tier 4.

Action – Mark will add paint to the sign.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25

Next meeting 7:30 on July 21 at the Town Office Building

Respectfully submitted

Dan O’Hara