

Minutes for February 2, 2021 YARMOUTH ENERGY COMMITTEE (1)
ZOOM REMOTE PARTICIPATION MEETING

PRESENT: Marilyn Holle, Joyce Flynn, Susan Starkey, Steve Gavin, Bob Palmeri,
Sandra Cashen, Mike Duffy, Barry Margolin
TOWN STAFF: Tara Monroe, Assistant Assessor

Joyce Flynn called the meeting to Order at 4:33.

Motion to approve remote meeting was unanimously approved.

Minutes for the January meeting were unanimously approved with minor revisions.

TOWN ENERGY PROGRESS: Amanda Lima relayed a message to Joyce about the town hall PV grounding issue. A new inverter would be under Round VI. CVEC may be able to reuse the old panels.

CAPE LIGHT COMPACT-CLC: Joyce Flynn reported that Yarmouth will be included in the Main Street Program this year. This provides information to business owners regarding free energy audits and efficiency programs. She felt the Community Development people would approve distributing this information to Route 6a, in Yarmouth Port, Route 28 near Old Main Street in South Yarmouth, and Route 28 in West Yarmouth because Yarmouth does not have one centralized business area. Bob suggested the addition of Whites Path because of its many small businesses.

CAPE & VINEYARD COOPERATIVE – CVEC: Steve Gavin informed the committee that Liz Argo will be on vacation until February 15th. In her absence Tatianna Nickinello would be the person to contact. Steve has been researching fire hazard with Tesla batteries. This revealed that if a power wall became hot that lots of water would be the best solution as fire extinguishers do not mitigate the problem. It suggests that all connections should be shut off and there is concern that it could reignite within 24 hours. Joyce mentioned that there is a website plugvoltage.com which has webinars that are for the most part free

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UPDATE ON ENERGY ARTICLES FOR THE NEXT TOWN MEETING:

Yarmouth Climate Action Network petitions submitting a “climate package” of three articles for inclusion in the 2021 Annual Town Meeting Warrant had signatures certified. Two of them are substitutes for articles postponed at the November special Town Meeting, incorporating suggested revisions that came up when articles were discussed with the Board in October; the third proposal is new: By-law on energy efficiency in procurement of vehicles: These three articles will be posted to the town website prior to the town meeting. A fourth article was prepared by Tom Baron. Barry Margolin feels that the Energy Committee should prepare a presentation to be made at the town meeting to increase the likely hood of passage. The articles will be discussed during the March meeting.

SOLARIZE PLUS YARMOUTH: Report provided by Mile Duffy

Applicant Proposals are due Wednesday, February 3. The RFP was sent to the CEC’s following stakeholder lists: solar PV, clean heating and cooling, In total this went to about 5000 email addresses. These lists do tend to have all installers that have participated with CEC in the past in solarize, heat smart, rebate programs, etc. Mike forwarded the RFP directly to the following local installers to make sure they were aware of the RFP. Advertisers in the Crude: The Climate Change Musical program: Cotuit Solar, Solar Rising, My Generation Energy E2 Solar, Outer Cape Energize (Solarize Mass Program), and ACE Solar.

Upcoming schedule:

Virtual meeting with CEC on Thursday, February 4, to discuss proposals.

Proposal reviewers:

All Proposals: Town Rep and Mike

PV Proposals: Barry, Sandra, Sheila

ASHP Proposals: Bob, Joyce, Chris

Virtual meeting with Cadmus on Tuesday, February 16 to review the score sheets (found on the CEC’s Google Drive)

Sandra Cashen spent two hours with Angela regarding the website.

The town software is not the best. Issues about access and email IDs will be discussed later.

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YARMOUTH ENERGY COMMITTEE ANNUAL OPERATING PLAN:

Report by Mike Duffy

Electric vehicles (Mike)

The Mass RMV finally sent Mike a database containing the number of vehicles registered in Yarmouth of the following two types:

Electric – 31 Electric and gas hybrid – 219. This data was validated by Joyce, Bob and Barry who were able to identify their specific models; although the data indicated that Barry's car is garaged in Yarmouth Port, not South Yarmouth

Mike has repeatedly asked to speak with someone familiar with the RMV's data collection methodology, but so far, no luck.

ENERGY COMMITTEE BUSINESS: General discussion regarding finding additional help with committee work as Susan Starkey will be leaving by April. This involved possibly getting an intern with social media skills who could also provide backup for Sandra Cashen. Suggestions for a posting of the position with DY, Cape Cod Community College and Mass Maritime Academy. Several members also thought finding a local business person with an interest in becoming an Energy Committee member might be worthwhile to fill the vacancy. Inquires could be made at the Cape Cod Technology Council's First Friday and the Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce.

Conflict of Interest training and Open Meeting laws for the committee members certificates of completion were sent to Steve Gavin.

Next meeting: March 2, 2021 4:30 PM as a ZOOM meeting. Adjourn at 6:07