

March Minutes, Town of Randolph Energy Advisory Committee March 3, 2022

Gary called the meeting to order at 6:05. In attendance: Gary Dir, Susan Mills, Jeff Grout, Maryann Saves, and Jerry Ward. The February minutes were approved, and the agenda was posted. ****Action items.**

Report from Gary

Gary reported on his meetings with Town Manager Trevor Nashua and School Supervisor Layne Millington.

Trevor only had 20 minutes for the meeting, so only limited items from the agenda could be covered. These included highlights of the 3 meetings between the selectboard and the REC. Gary confirmed he understood that the selectboard only wanted a short list of recommended tasks. Gary also read a short document he sent Trevor summarizing their meeting, including the board's support for a LED lighting project and an education event. Gary also informed Trevor of his discussion with TRORC President Peter Gregory. Peter supports Energy Coordinator Steven Bauer helping Randolph projects that can flow from forthcoming state funding. Also, some of the work that Maryann had done on the costs of hiring of an energy coordinator was discussed. Gary also informed Trevor that Braintree's town ballot would be asking for approval for working with nearby towns on the possibility of hiring an energy coordinator and reducing energy costs.

Gary also spoke with Randolph School Supervisor Layne Millington. Gary told Layne about the meetings we have held with Hartford Climate Council, Linda Gray on energy coordinators, and VPIRG'S Ben Walsh on where to focus our work in 2022. Solar panels on school rooftops were discussed. Layne indicated he was not ready to consider solar panels at this time because of concerns about future disposal problems.

Report from Jeff

Jeff reported that Trevor has contacted Efficiency Vermont about a walk-through for 3 town buildings.

The ARPA committee will soon be doing community outreach to gather ideas for how Randolph's 1.4 million dollars should be spent. Specific guidelines will also be coming out soon. ****Our energy committee** should be thinking about proposals, with specific dollar amounts attached to the proposals. Jeff said that these proposals could be sent to him. The selectboard will be making the final decisions about any proposals.

Report from Maryann

The town will be organizing a training about the open meeting law. Town committee members will be invited to attend.

Maryann has collected information about how much money towns would need to contribute for a shared energy coordinator. This would amount to about \$50,000 per year for Randolph.

****Gary** will set up a meeting with Steven Bauer to discuss how he could help us with projects for our committee right now.

LED lighting

Maryann talked to Patrick at Gifford and learned that Gifford was able to save a lot of money by switching to LED lights. ****Maryann** will email Trevor to tell him about her findings and also ask if lighting will be part of the audit of town buildings.

Workshop with Capstone Community Action

Maryann met with Linda Anderson from Capstone to discuss collaborating on a workshop. Linda said that September would be best for them, but ****Maryann** will check with her again to see if this could happen sooner. A lot will be happening in the fall for our committee (Window Dressers and the weatherization workshop at Central Supplies), so earlier would be better for us.

Education event

Gary would like to hold an education event this spring. It seems that the selectboard would be the main audience for this event. ****Andre** will do some research about how this might work and report back at our next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Mills