Shelburne Energy Committee

Meeting Minutes – March 23, 2022 4:00 pm

Present: Tom Johnson, Pat Stevenson, Andrew Baker

Also Present: Cynthia Boettner

Absent: George Boettner, John Walsh

Agenda

Interview with Cynthia Boettner for Energy Advocate 8-hour per week Mass Save Communities First Program position.

Tom Johnson opened by noting that George Boettner and John Walsh recused themselves from this meeting – George is Cynthia’s spouse and John is a friend and partner in a joint solar energy installation. The committee will research conflict of interest rules with the Town Clerk and interview both candidates who applied for the position.

Cynthia shared her concerns about door to door canvassing and asked if the 8-hour position could be averaged to allow for summer travel. She expressed interest in attending a Mass Save social marketing workshop. The committee agreed that there are many opportunities for outreach that will be brainstormed and prioritized when the full group meets. Tom noted that the Town has a list of Shelburne residents who expressed interest in the Solarize campaign a few years ago, which would make a good starting list of contacts.

Tom suggested engaging with the schools to recruit student interns to work with the Energy Advocate. Generating mailings that could go home to parents from the schools, doing art class projects, and other brainstorm ideas. Cynthia mentioned she has some good school contacts.

Cynthia said she does want help prioritizing tasks and expressed a desire to have frank feedback if she does accept the position. She said she is very interested and will give a final answer on accepting it after a few days consideration.

The committee members were impressed by Cynthia’s long history of service in the community, her outreach and management experience, and her personal experience with Jeff in weatherizing their home, installing solar panels, and adding HVAC to their home heating system.

After Cynthia left the meeting, the three committee members expressed strong approval for offering the position to Cynthia. Tom projected that the committee may be able to make a final offer by end of next week.

Adjourned at 4:45 pm

p.s. In the few days following the meeting, the Committee decided that an offer not be made to Cynthia until the other candidate for the position, Mark Burton, was interviewed, to insure that the best candidate would be selected as our Energy Advocate. A virtual interview with Mr. Burton was then scheduled for March 30, 2022.