**Town of Shelburne Energy Committee Meeting**

**Minutes of Meeting on October 19, 2023**

**LOCATION: In person at Town Hall**

**PURPOSE: Monthly committee meeting**

**—Members present:** Tom Johnson, Pat Stevenson, Jeff Boettner, Phil Bragdon

**—Observers/Guest:** Cynthia Boettner, Andrew Baker, Tricia Yacovone-Biagi

1. **Call to order:** Tom Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM

**2. Committee Membership:** Tom Johnson reported that Rick Lapierre would like someone from the rural area of Shelburne to be on the recently established Streetlight Committee and requested that if anyone can recommend someone to

please let him know ASAP.

**3. Approval of minutes:** Minutes of the Energy Committee meeting held on

9/21/23 were reviewed. A motion to approve was made by Pat Stevenson, seconded by Jeff Boettner, and approved unanimously by the committee.

**4. New Business:** Tom Johnson presented a graph showing the dramatic rise in global average sea surface/land temperatures and expressed his concerns for the need to push for more environmental programs to address this issue. See graph attached.

This led to a presentation by our guest, Tricia Yacovone-Biagi from the Municipal Vulnerability Program. Tricia is eager to collaborate with the Energy Committee in reaching its energy goals, as well as, helping make our community more resilient from the impacts of climate change. In September, the MVP had a workshop to discuss strengths/vulnerabilities within our community. As a result, a Public Listening Session is scheduled with the Town of Shelburne Selectboard for Monday, October 23, 2023 at 6 P.M. Goals of the MVP as well as funding options will be discussed at this meeting. Public feedback is important, and Tricia encouraged all members of our committee to attend and asked that we get the word out to other residents within the community. She is also planning to set up a web page for the MVP for residents to access and hopes to have an Emergency Management Committee in place as well.

**5. Old Business:**

**Community First Update**

Energy Advocate, Cynthia Boettner, reported that she is stepping down from this position. No date is set for her departure and she expressed interest in working with whoever is hired to replace her to help with the transition. Phil Bragdon mentioned that he knew someone who might be interested in taking over and would make contact with that individual and let the committee know if she was interested. Tom Johnson suggested that Cynthia hold off informing All-In Energy of her departure until the committee decides how to move forward in her absence. It may be necessary to terminate the program as many goals have already been achieved, especially with small businesses.

Cynthia presented a chart showing the CFP data for the period 2022 to 10/17/23 in home assessments, weatherizations, heat pump installations, and small business assessments and upgrades following audits (see attached). She further discussed ways to do outreach especially to landlords/renters. She plans to be present at the Autumn Market at Buckland Shelburne Elementary School on Sunday, November 26, 2023.

With regard to budget updates, Tom reported that invoices were submitted for the second and third quarters two weeks ago. $9,000 is still in the budget and most of that will be for the Energy Advocate position. If AIE approves, he suggested that we might use that to pay a new person as well Cynthia during the transition.

**Solar Installations**

Jeff Boettner and John Walsh plan to meet with Chris Mason, the regional coordinator for Green Communities, on 10/24/23 regarding the recently completed installation of mini-splits to replace the oil furnace, funded by Green Communities and the Town. Green Communities grant application deadline for solar installs is April 2024.Andrew Baker suggested holding off on that deadline.

**Streetlights**

Jeff Boettner, Doug Engel, John Walsh, Laurie Wheeler and Todd Dubreuil will be serving on the new committee to work with Real Term Energy who is doing the audit of the streetlights. The committee has not met yet but Real Term Energy expects to have the survey of the streetlights completed in December and will make recommendations to the committee.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business, a motion was made by Pat, seconded by Jeff to adjourn at 9:34 PM. The motion was approved unanimously.

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, November 16, 2023.

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