

Minutes of the Peacham Energy Committee – 23-Oct--2022

Held at the Peacham Congregational Church

Those present: Chair Allie Webster, Jock Gill, Bruce Westcott Unavailable: Tom Bryer, Harry Vann.

Others:

- Sonia Dunbar, Pastor – Peacham Congregational Church
- John Marshall – Moderator, Peacham Congregational Church
- Brad Toney
- David Edwards
- Lynne Lawson
- Mary Daley
- Susan Smolinsky – Peacham Librarian

1. Call to order: 1:18 PM
2. Additions to the agenda – Discuss resources in and for the community, in case of electrical failures, climate emergencies, and other emergencies of residents
 1. Sonia covered suggestions made at today's services
 2. Jock raised general concern about community resilience, which he believes requires groups to work together, and not in separate silos. He pointed out a concern for people who are burning wood, and may not have good experience, or a clean chimney.
 3. Allie covered various programs which the Energy Committee has been promoting like \$50 Energy Audits and free firewood available at the Transfer Station
3. Approval of previous meeting minutes – Motion to approve minutes of September 2021 (Jock/Westcott) approved unanimously.
4. Public comment period –
 1. Dave Edwards covered the current state of the "Peacham Emergency Fund", of which he is chair. He described a variety of needs for which citizens have applied for funds. A balance of approximately \$4500 remains in the fund, raised from contributions over several years. Dave described the process the Committee uses, applicants are anonymous, and funds can go toward meeting emergency fuel needs and other energy related work. Further discussion of the ongoing need for community education.
 2. Sonia: suggestion that we have a list of people who are willing to share generators, and have people stay in their homes. And, if conditions warranted, a list of people who could go out to frozen homes to check on frozen pipes, pets, fuel, etc.
 3. Jock: We need a one-page printed list of names/numbers of organizations that provide resources/training/funds.
 4. We need to look at capabilities and intentions of Town, School and Church authorities about upgrading their facilities to better serve as emergency refuge centers.

5. Allie suggested that Peacham consider planning an emergency “rehearsal” day where we would muster resources to respond to a specified type of emergency.
6. Lynne suggested that the Town Phone Book should have a number prominently listed for “Peacham Emergencies.” The concept is that it would be answered by someone knowledgeable about availability of various services.
5. Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was unanimously adopted at 2:08 PM (Gill, Westcott)

Further discussion ensued following adjournment:

- Sonia agreed that she would be happy to contact the School, Town, Fire Department and Library to pose the same question she raised in Church this morning: in the event of a long-freeze emergency event, what would you be able to offer in terms of time, talent, and/or treasure. She will suggest that if they can get back to her with results, we would be happy to compile the information into a document to share with all concerned.