

Minutes of the Peacham Energy Committee – 9--Jan--2023

Zoom Meeting hosted in Peacham, VT

Those present: Chair Allie Webster, Jock Gill, Bruce Westcott, Tom Bryer; also Dave Stauffer (public).

1. Call to order – 7:04

2. Additions to the agenda

Jock asked about progress on the Peacham Community Solar (PCS) array; the chair briefed on current status. Construction expected to begin in the coming weeks. Other towns are interested in our PCS work, and are reaching out to learn.

3. Approval of previous meeting minutes – Approved unanimously (Westcott/Bryer)

4. Public comment period – None noted

5. Campaigns & Events

a. Discussion of Fund-raising supper for Community Fund – discussion of timing – with consideration of Covid spreading. Discussion of logistics. Discussion of whether this could be deferred until May. Discussion of school vacations, and summer people. Concern about what the timeframe will be for getting out adequate notice and fund-raising. Bruce will raise these concerns/questions with Dave Edwards, and report back. Discussion about creating energy & community resilience handouts at Town Meeting.

b. Discuss Town Hall Energy Upgrades – Chair will reach out to the selectboard about what the Committee's role should be relative to future efforts to upgrade the Town Hall.

c. Power Outage at Fire District site – Tom reviewed the recent power outage; there was discussion of the need for a generator/battery, and the larger need for increased flow and storage.

6. Outreach & Communications – The Chair asked members to think about recruiting new members. She also asked for ideas for education/awareness campaigns this year. Tom said he'd be interested in learning more about the carbon footprint and energy efficiency of burning wood pellets. Jock said we should promote the incentives offered from the Inflation Reduction Act and from local electric utilities (GMP & WEC).

7. Review correspondence - none

8. Adjournment – Motion to adjourn (Gill/Bryer) passed unanimously at 8:07 PM.

The following meeting will be **February 6**, on Zoom unless otherwise noted.