

Minutes
West Tisbury Energy Committee
25 January 2023

Present: Kate Warner, Ron Dagostino, Nicola Blake, Sue Hrubby, Richard Andre

Also Present: Amelia Smith (assistant), Michael Gately, Marc Rosenbaum, Joe Tierney (Building Inspector).

Meeting opened 8:30 AM

Minutes Approved 1 Feb. 2023

1. Minutes of January 3, 2023 approved.
2. **Discussion of the Specialized Code:** Marc Rosenbaum explained differences between the Specialized Code and the Stretch Code. The Specialized Code would introduce more stringent HERS rating requirements 6 to 9 months before the Stretch Code changes those requirements for residential buildings under 4000 square feet, but is otherwise similar for most houses. The Specialized Code has additional requirements for small commercial buildings -- Joe Tierney reported that he sees about one new small commercial building per year in West Tisbury and one substantial renovation of a commercial building per year. It was discussed that a third-party reviewer would be helpful in ensuring compliance with the code for commercial buildings. For houses over 4000 square feet there would be some additional requirements in the Specialized Code.

The Specialized Code is consistent with the town's climate goals, and would ramp us up more quickly to the 2050 goals. However, the committee decided not to propose a warrant article to adopt the Specialized Code at this spring's annual town meeting, because it may take a lot of political effort for a relatively small practical impact. The committee would like to see increased support for enforcement of the existing Stretch Code instead. Marc will develop a checklist that Joe can use with the Massachusetts-specific ComCheck and ResCheck software, a code compliance tool, to help in his building inspections, and the committee will look for other ways to support enforcement of the Stretch Code.

3. **Ferries Now** will be an event at the Film Center, on March 31, 10:30 AM to 2:30 PM. It will begin with a presentation about electric ferry systems in Denmark, Maine, and Washington State. The Steamship Authority will make their presentation after lunch. The Martha's Vineyard Commission is sponsoring the event which will also be available remotely. Reservations open March 1st via the Film Center website.

4. **EV Chargers:** The rates have been raised at the library charger but not by enough to cover the full cost of the software, maintenance, and electricity. There was a discussion of how to set pricing, and who should be responsible for setting the price. Amelia will talk to Kathy Logue about this to see if she or Bruce might set the price.

Nicola and Amelia will bring their research on new EV chargers to the Select Board meeting later on January 25th. Nicola says that Artis recommended that we ask for the full amount of the cost, which would be about \$36,000 for the chargers at the school.

Meeting adjourned 9:50

Next meeting: Wednesday, February 1, 2023 at 8:30 AM