

WT Energy Committee via Zoom

Approved 4/6/22 with R Andre abstaining.

Minutes 3/9/22

Present: Nicola Blake, Ron Dagostino, Sue Hruby, Kate Warner.

Absent: Richard Andre

1. Minutes of February 2nd approved.
2. Discussion of upcoming presentations.
 - Sue will be the MC. Kate will do the short presentation.
 - Sue will acknowledge high cost of electricity right now. (and other energy sources as well.)
 - Ron will bring up Community Empowerment bill and explain its value: how increasing the percentage of renewables in the Renewable Portfolio Standard helps stabilize the cost of electricity.

Ron also mentioned that a bill has been filed in the Legislature requiring 100% electric for new construction. (separate from these Home Rule petitions)

Everyone was asked to email people to encourage them to come to one of the presentations.

3. Yes to participating in CVEC Round 6 reissuing of Vineyard projects. Would like to see information about WT Library project presented correctly in the document-not just corrected in an addendum.
4. Announcement that we are now all Special Municipal Employees which loosens some aspects of the State conflict of interest laws.
5. Discussed how to encourage energy efficient use of town buildings.
 - We have Mass Energy Insight data on the buildings that we can review
 - Q: what steps would we like to see taken that would make an appreciable difference?
 - Establish a good relationship with building managers and explain what we would like to see. Ask how we can help them accomplish this? Give examples of what has been done in other places.
 - Goal: each building is headed in the right direction
- 6.. Old business: discussed EC view on PACE program. Decided to send this to the Select Board:

From an energy perspective, this is a program that we support. There are other aspects of the program that are out of our domain that the Town would need to review before deciding whether to approve.

Meeting adjourned 9:30 am.

Next meeting is Wednesday April 13, 8:30 am