

Minutes
West Tisbury Energy Committee
3 January 2023

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

Absent: Richard Andre

Also Present: Amelia Smith (assistant), Michael Gately

Minutes approved, 1/25/2023

Meeting opened 8:30 AM

1. Minutes of December 14, 2022 approved with changes.

2. Update on Town Buildings:

The committee discussed Louis de Geofroy's response to the CLEAR report, which indicated that some changes may have been made to the Public Safety building since the report was made, without reference to the report. How can the Energy Committee achieve better communication with the Facilities Maintenance Committee, the Select Board, and the Capital Improvements Committee? Adding a member of the Energy Committee to the Facilities Committee will be discussed with Jen Rand and the committee discussed how to approach other town boards.

A plan has not been made as yet by the UIRSC to move ahead with the West Tisbury School renovation project: both energy aspects and additions to the School that the Principal would like. Chilmark continues to work on plans to be 100% electric at their School.

3. Michael Gately will be joining as an official member of this committee. A few other potential committee members were suggested as well.

4. Update on EV chargers:

Nicola and Amelia are continuing to work on getting quotes for EV charging equipment and its installation, maintenance, software costs, etc., and are looking for funding opportunities from the Inflation Reduction Act and Eversource. They have talked to Kim Peters of Artis Energy, who is working with Chilmark and Edgartown to install their new chargers. We will need to go to the Select Board with this initial information about EV Chargers -- Amelia or Nicola will ask for this to be put on the January 18th Select Board agenda.

5. Discussion of warrant articles for Spring Town Meeting:

The Pool bylaw is moving ahead with the Planning Board.

The town has the option to adopt the Specialized Code at the spring Annual Town Meeting (ATM). The committee discussed how to determine whether or not the Specialized Code is a goal worth pursuing at this year. Committee members would like to discuss it with Joe Tierney, WT Building Inspector, to get his opinion on it, and talk to local builders about it before putting it on the Town Meeting Warrant. Kate will re-do the slide show about the Specialized Code to share with committee members and Joe.

6. Eversource and Private Lines:

In Eastham, the town is paying for an upgrade on a private line to bring it up to standards so that Eversource can take it over. Sue is working on finding out how the town of Eastham worked with Eversource on this and how they arranged the financing for it.

<https://provincetownindependent.org/featured/2022/11/02/homeowners-learn-they-must-maintain-buried-power-lines/> This project will be pursued further after the town meeting warrants are submitted.

Next meeting: Wednesday January 25th 8:30 AM