

West Tisbury Energy Committee

Minutes, Wednesday November 2, 2022

8:30 AM, Virtual meeting via Zoom

Approved November 16, 2022

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

Also present: Amelia Smith (assistant), Michael Gately, Luke Lefebber and Dion Alley (Vineyard Power), Erik Peckar (Cape Light Compact)

Meeting opened at 8:33 AM

1. Minutes of October 5, 2022 approved.
2. Updates:
 - a. **Howes House:** Richard Andre reported that Keenan & Kenny Architects are in negotiations for the Howes House project. Dion Alley will be working with them to ensure that energy objectives are met.
 - b. **Public Safety Building:** Richard and Luke Lefebber met with fire chief Greg Pachico to find out what changes he would want for the building. These included an improved carbon monoxide exhaust system and a dormitory for emergency personnel with 2 or 3 beds. There is a heat pump system in use for the office and meeting room. Coordination of forced hot air heat supply and heat pump heat supply needed.

Chief might be open to moving communications center from Fire Station 1 to Public Safety building but more information needed.

Fire Station 1 has newer exhaust system with exhaust hoses connected right to tailpipe.

Taking out diesel generator at FS1 and replacing with propane.
 - c. Library: No news.
 - d. **School:** Kate Warner reported that the School Principal had a number of additional requests for a school renovation, including a larger gym. The Up Island Regional School Committee will be discussing how to go forward with the energy analysis recommendations and the requests of the Principal.

Suggestion made to get political leaders involved. The cost of the School renovations is ultimately the voters' decision.

3. **Cape Light Compact** funding opportunities: Erik Peckar and Dion Alley reported on some available funding opportunities, including one for enhanced municipal retrofits, and META grants for Green Communities. Erik will continue to update the committee on funding opportunities through CLC. Richard and Amelia will look into META grant possibilities for this funding cycle, closing Nov. 18th.

Suggestion to meet with Margaret Song and tell her what the Town needs.

4. **Rising energy prices:** Sue Hruby stressed the need for the Cape Light Compact to let people know ahead of time about the price increases for electricity that are coming this winter so that they can budget.
5. **EV chargers at the school:** Nicola reported that she and Amelia are working on this.
6. Some possible warrant items for the Annual Town Meeting were discussed:
 - a. Specialized Code which is more stringent than Stretch Code
 - b. Pool bylaws
 - c. Leaf blower ban
7. BlocPower is a company offering to install heat pumps and lease them to homeowners. Aquinnah is considering working with them. WT EC will wait to see what Aquinnah decides.

Questions raised included: maintenance contract, consumer protection, how well their business model would work here and how incentives from MassSave would be passed on to BlocPower.

Meeting adjourned at 9:55 AM

Next meeting: Nov. 16, 8:30 AM, via Zoom