

Islesboro Energy Committee Meeting Minutes July 16, 2018

Present: Jim Roberts, Chair; Toby Martin, Janis Petzel, Bill Thomas

Minutes

1. Quorum present. No visitors.
2. Minutes unanimously approved with no corrections.
3. Project Updates
 - a. Street Lights—Jim will present July 25 to Select Board. Letter has been sent to Janet.
 - b. Energy Audits—per Toby: 2/3 responses after email communication. No set appointment times yet, but Toby hopes to get that done in August or September, on a Monday when all town buildings are open. Aug 13, 27 or Sept 10 are possibilities. August 13 is too close to Sewing Circle Fair. Bill suggested we get blueprints to see what the construction is and possibly what insulation they have.
 - c. Solar Farm: Jim talked to Bill Boardman—soggy area near salt shed is less than an acre, and could potentially be used. Also, the shed roof, which had previously been considered for the town solar panels that eventually went on to the town office. Jim got a copy of the study done by the town which had the design for the shed panels. Also, Janis talked to Janet, who mentioned that Craig Olson was hoping at some point to get a cover over the compactors which could have solar panels on top, so that area by the transfer station could potentially house enough panels.

Jim noticed a barn for sale by the airport entrance with a south facing roof. Toby knows the people who own the airport hangars (privately owned buildings). The owner has previously expressed interest in solar, so that area is also a possibility.

TL will likely be able to help get cost estimates for various sites. The land behind the ferry terminal is not town property and is not available, and the land by the landfill is also not available, so those sites have been ruled out.
 - d. Goal of solar projects—to provide 100% of power for town/municipality. Eventually, it would be great to get Islesboro to be independent with clean energy, but committee wants to do it incrementally, and has to wait for the Maine legislature to come in to the modern world as far as solar metering rules go. (with that in mind, we encouraged Toby to invite Owen Cassas to the Energy Conference this fall).
 - e. Bus Routes—Lincolnvile ferry terminal is part of shoreline route from Belfast to Rockland. Toby and Jim brought in copies of the schedule. Bus will run in a.m. and p.m. Need to get a link posted on Islesboro website. Flyers going out. The survey that Dave developed for people of Islesboro to see if people are interested will be going out. Bill has talked with Tina, who would put a pdf of the survey and a link to the survey (on Survey Monkey) on the Town website.
 - f. Wind turbines—Melissa is not here today, but sent Jim a report. The company feels there is enough wind to make a turbine possible. The turbines are tall, but the blades are not the gargantuan ones like on Vinalhaven, which eased the mind of at least one Energy Committee member.. This is a school project and we as the Energy Committee are interested and supportive, but the school is the lead on the project. Jim will forward

letter from Melissa for our information. Letter contains data that will be of use for us. Jim will also send link to full proposal.

g. Solar panel function and town: solar panels are not yet hooked up to the internet, which is why the town has not yet received the link from Revision and why we can't go on line to see the power generated. Jim recalls that the June bill did not show any solar production, so that is still a mystery. When Janis talked to Janet, Janet could not find the bill. Janis will continue to follow up with the town office.

h. Electric vehicle plug ins: Janis found out that the state of Maine will get \$21 Million in funds from the VW lawsuit, and 15% of that money can be used for alternative energy. Per DOT, that money will be used for putting charging stations along the major road ways (I-95, 295, Rte 1, 201, 202). A suggestion to put chargers in ferry terminal parking lots was well received, but the process for getting that accomplished is not clear at this point. Janis will forward the emails to the committee.

4. Prioritize Committee Projects ST and LT—deferred to next meeting

5. Other Business

a. Energy Conference Sept 8 all day, here on Islesboro. Info in IIN. "Envisioning Islesboro's Energy Future"

b. Toby would like someone from this Committee to give a presentation.

6. Next Meeting, and meetings for the rest of the year: Time 4 p.m. Town Office

8/13, 9/17, 1/22, 11/19, 12/10.

"Homework"

1. Get blue prints, any info on insulation, type of heating.--Bill will do.

2. Bill will also talk to people at library, town buildings, iother town buildings about cold spots, thermostats, etc.

3. Make a list of potential sites for solar farm--see above in 3c.

4. Bill—will prompt us to respond after we have a chance to look at the survey. All of us need to look at link for the various Midcoast public transportation routes on their website.

5. Toby will talk to Stephanie to get bus schedules for us to help spread the word.

6. Janis and Dave—continue to work with town to get solar output app installed and on town website.

Respectfully submitted,

Janis Petzel