

Islesboro Energy Committee
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, April 12, 2022
In-Person Meeting at 5:15PM, Town Office

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Interim Chair Myra Sinnott called the meeting to order at 5:15pm.

2. Establishment of a Quorum

Quorum was established with over 4 members

Members Present: Myra Sinnott, Cressica Brazier, Dick DeGrasse, Josh Leach, Toby Martin, Janis Petzel, Bill Thomas, and Jordy Watson

Others Present: Melissa Burns, Janice Leach, Melissa Olson, and Carrie Reed

3. Introduce visitors

Myra introduced Melissa Olson, Library Director, and Carrie Reed, Secretary

4. Approval of minutes from previous meeting

Motion: To approve Minutes of March 15, 2022, as written, J. Petzel, seconded by D. DeGrasse. No discussion. Motion passed, 8 yes, 0 no, Unanimous.

5. Ongoing Projects/Old Business

a. Status of Evergreen work (Bill)

- Bill tried to get in touch with Brian at Evergreen, but unsuccessful. Will keep trying. Going away but will be back on the 28th.

b. ETIPP Scope of Work (Janis)

- Janis stated there were two meetings with ETIPP, one via Zoom to connect with other communities.
- Yesterday was the monthly check-in and went over the initial analysis with data we sent. Will send report once corrected one is received.
- On May 21, three people from ETIPP will be here, two people from Eastport, and 6 - 8 people from Island Institute. They will speak at Energy Jamboree, and may need overnight accommodations.

c. Energy Jamboree (Cressica)

- Cressica announced that the event is 5 weeks out, so it's crunch time.
- Organizing team: Myra, Toby, Bill, Cressica, and Anne McGee
- Cressica distributed a summary and list of tasks/ideas for the event. Looking for input, ideas, and help from other members.
- Myra talked with a man from Ungrid Maine, which helps people to get their homes off-grid, and she invited him to the event, and possibly to be a vendor and/or do a presentation.
- Bill gave some updates on vendors. The IESC is willing to have a table at the event. He has been in touch with ReVision Energy about their participation.

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Still waiting to hear back. Has also been in touch with Viking, waiting to hear back from them as well.

- Myra suggested reaching out to Aubuchon Hardware.
- Jordy has been researching generator alternatives and has found a storage pack inverter with varying wattage capacity. Some have 2-3-hour charge time and can run as long as a full tank of fuel in a traditional generator. Solar panels can also be added. Price range \$1200-1300, different makes. Great concept.
- Toby suggested that members post ideas to the website and let people know about it.

d. Sub-Committees

- Myra explained that she assigned members to the subcommittees as follows:
 - i. ETIPP – Janis, Myra
 - ii. Energy efficiency work (Evergreen) – Bill, Jordy
 - iii. Energy Jamboree – Cressica, Bill, Toby, Myra
 - iv. Data collection/management – Bill
 - v. Library liaison - Toby
 - vi. Health Center Committee liaison – Janis, Josh
 - vii. Select Board liaison – Myra
 - viii. Website management – Cressica, Bill
 - ix. ICS member - ?

e. Green Home and Energy Show

6. New Business/Potential New Projects

- Melissa Olson talked about her background. She was part of this committee several years ago, doing a lot of sustainability at the school, then went to the library. As the Library Director, she is very interested in getting the library building energy efficient.
- Melissa has been working with Toby, and they came up with guiding principles, mission, and priorities.
- Toby read the guiding principles to the group. See attached.
- Melissa spoke about her ideas for the library: change the light fixtures to LED, solar panels, heat pumps
- Need energy audit of the building first.
- Had a preliminary audit walk-through in 2018 by Evergreen.
- We have worked hard to find a good fit for us, a company that will give us what we need in an energy audit. Toby found Michael Mayhew with Heliotropic Technologies. Melissa passed around qualifications statement, Portland Press Herald article, info on 2 historic libraries he worked on with energy audits: The Belfast Free Library, and the Carver in Searsport. He is highly qualified in this area. Our library qualifies as a historic building, as it's over 100 years old.
- Michael Mayhew told us about the Belvedere Historic Preservation and Energy Efficiency Grant under the Maine Community Foundation that awards grants up

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to \$20,000 to retrofit historic buildings for energy efficiency. The grant requires an energy audit.

- Melissa said she is here to ask for \$4500 from the Energy Committee for the audit. Will email copies of the documents.
- Jordy said we had been talking about having an energy audit there anyway. It would be good to have someone who specializes in old buildings.
- Melissa feels that Evergreen is not for us.
- Toby said that Michael Mayhew takes time, explains things well, is very professional. He feels Islesboro deserves it. The documents have within them a verification analysis of the work that he's done on a project which guarantees efficiency results.
- Melissa got a good reference from Belfast Free Library for Michael Mayhew, who was with Evergreen at the time. The cost for the study in 2014-15 was \$5000.
- Melissa Burns asked about Michael's availability and timeline. Melissa Olson answered that he is extremely responsive. He will be available in early summer.
- Travel/ferry expenses will be extra.
- Cressica asked if we can get some sort of plan or assurance from him that he will be able to help us implement projects after the audit. Toby answered that Michael is the head of any operations that would come out of his project if we so choose. He has access to many contractors. Cressica is concerned that he can demonstrate that he will be able to carry a project forward. Also concerned about project management fees. Melissa will look into the process.
- Discussion about audit vs. planning vs. work, fees should be clear.
- Evergreen has their own workforce, but unresponsive. Bill Thomas says that they haven't always been unresponsive; something strange has been going on recently.
- Cressica asked if we can get a list from Michael of the contractors he's worked with to implement his recommendations.
- Myra stated that we have \$5600 in budget and wanted to use it either for the Town Office or Library, to be used by June 30th.
- Melissa will follow-up with Michael for list of subcontractors, how he lines up the work, and schedule.
- Dick pointed out that Michael is qualified, and we may want an audit by someone who has no interest in the contracting part that will follow, as it will be a true audit.
- Melissa asked when we would need to book him in order to have him here in summer.

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- Discussion about whether or not to vote tonight or delay vote for next meeting. Group decided to read over information and vote on approving the funds at next meeting.
- Special meeting via Zoom in 2 weeks, April 26, to vote.

7. Coordination/Communication with Other Groups
None

8. Homework for next meeting

- Read materials
- Help Cressica with Jamboree
- Work on subcommittees

9. Adjourn
Motion to adjourn at 6:25pm, J. Petzel, seconded by J. Watson. No discussion. Motion passed, 8 yes, 0 no, Unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carrie Reed, Secretary