Pelham Energy Committee

Draft Minutes from April 30, 2019

The meeting was convened at 7:40 PM

Present: Sahar, Stan, Alisa, Tony, John

Minutes: Tony Rogers

**Minutes**

The minutes of the last meeting were unanimously approved

**Member search**

Nothing to report.

**Town meeting prep**

We were going to ask the town for an additional $40K to cover HVAC costs above what we are expecting from the Green Communities Grant. At the May 17 Select Board Meeting the Finance Committee Chair said he does not see the need for asking for town funds for the HVAC, above those already allocated. The energy committee has had $25K from Spring 2018 Town Meeting that is unused, the Highway Department had $25K from Spring 2018 Town Meeting and will probably be allocated a additional $25K for repair or replacement of HVAC by 2019 Town Meeting. John Tricky is willing to put money for a generator on the Fall Town Meeting warrant if we receive the grants to move the Community Center HVAC project forward.  He might suggest the grants be used for a wood chip boiler. As the Energy Committee is not directly requesting funds this year, we will not be preparing for a discussion at town meeting.

**MVP Grant Application**

The final application included: funds for the Community Center HVAC, the design for a new school HVAC system, and solar PV over the library parking lot PV. The Select Board would get a consultant to do the grant management. We might hear if we got the grant in late July. Discussion: who should be involved in the discussion of the solar canopy? We need a recommendation in place for who should be included in a discussion about the canopy choices (the library, SB, school community?). We will need a discussion about how to identify interested groups. We might then have a public meeting with them. John – should we roll this into a broader meeting about energy projects in the town – a meeting about funded projects? MVP is select board grant. Does connect Pelham do a meeting? Alisa proposed that we prepare for : why VRF? John pointed out that we don’t need a meeting until we know what money we have. We should prepare on the assumption that we get both grants (Green Communities + MVP). We should think about this and have a discussion about a plan at next meeting. Stan noted that we will need to close out MVP grant deliverables and bills by the deadline, June 30. We will need the Cadmus deliverable. We still need final report on generator electrical implementation from RW Hall. **To do: Tony – get final generator report from RWHall.**

**Current MVP Grant**

Cadmus analysis: We still need to complete sensor study for school. 40 circuits will be monitored.

**Community Center Sensors**

**To do: Tony – talk to the Town Superintendent about sensor data.** Can the sensors inform the discussion about the roof bumps? Probably not.

**META Grant**

The META grant needs officially completed and closed out**. To do: Stan will do that.**

**Elementary School liaisons**

**To do: Alisa will talk to Brad Arndt + Aaron** about doing more as supporters of public meetings about HVAC / solar. Maybe they could host a meeting?

**CCE update**

The next meeting will have Paul Gromer + Paul Fenn, end of May. Mindy Domb put in for money in the House budget for Pelham + Amherst to hire consultants for a feasibility study.$ 70K-$80K. Note, the Hampshire Council of Governments is dissolving. CCE really needs a promotional arm in town (maybe connect Pelham could be part of it). Stan pointed out that, first, we need a plan to talk about. The MVP group could push for green energy. Any CCE plan would have to go to Town Meeting. Who is going to take over from Stan on CCE task force and energy committee?

**Old business** – nothing

**Next meetings:**

May 14th at 7:30 [after town election]. Following one on 28th. Discuss finishing up MVP, etc. grants, Plans for moving ahead with grants we might get and getting town by-in.

Adjourned at 8:49 PM