

## **Mason Energy Commission March 6, 2023**

**Attending:** Michelle Scott, Darrell Scott, Curt Spacht, Dick Stockdale, Michele Siegmann, Joseph Harney, Garth Fletcher, Dave Morrison, Kathy Chapman

**Approve the February Minutes:** The February minutes were approved.

**2023 goals discussion:** The floor was open to suggestions for 2023 goals. There was energy for helping the town departments to replace gas/diesel/propane equipment with electric equipment. It was suggested that we collect fact sheets about electric equipment and meet with Wally, Tony, etc. about what they are planning to buy and when. With respect to grants, it is felt that the biggest bang for the buck is residential. With respect to the other towns that we studied, most towns are looking for ways to fund their projects, looking for grants and looking at the IRA, and doing very similar things, be it solar or community power or EVs. One member feels that low-hanging fruit includes (1) energy efficiency, especially as home-owners replace aging appliances, (2) energy audits for older buildings, private or municipal, (3) Small scale PV systems using Net Metering at home, (4) level 2 EV charging systems, (5) possibly participation in a community power purchasing coalition, simply as consumers, neither managers nor producers, and (6) investigate Internal Revenue Code Section 6417: to ask the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) for a cash refund in the amount of credit to which the town is entitled, i.e. the town can ask the IRS for a direct payment. The group supported helping with a community service and chose trash pickup to help with. The group supported continuing with the monitoring project, and possibly expanding the project to other town buildings.

**Monitoring project update:** The electrician is willing to donate his time to install the two monitors that were donated. They will be installed in the Fire Department and the Highway Barn.

Adjourned at 9PM. Next meeting is March 6, 2023.