

MEC minutes from meeting, September 11, 2023

Attendees: Michelle Scott, Darrell Scott, Michele Siegmann, Richard Stockdale, Garth Fletcher, Dave Morrison, Curt Spacht, Kathy Chapman

Michelle Scott, Curt Spacht, Kathy Chapman, and Garth Fletcher attended by Zoom due to personal issues.

The meeting was called to order at 7PM. The minutes from August, 2023, were approved.

The September Farmer's Market Sept 16 MEC table was discussed. Plans for handouts/materials include:

- HAREI (www.harei.org) info
- Trees for saving energy
- Community Power handout/info
- Latest MEC fall flyer
- Our banner, and poster
- Sign up sheet for community power and maybe MEC members?

Michele, Michelle, and Dick will be there, and Michele will ask Dottie and Lundy to attend to help give info on community power. (of note, the date changed to Sunday due to weather) Kathy and Curt provided a tent!

Grant Application/Approval: Dave discussed the grant application that he and Kathy submitted. This grant is an application for the project approval, but does not guarantee funding, but eligibility. The grant would be for removing the current shelter, digging out the old tanks, reorienting the building for solar charging station for the Highway Dept. There would also be a room for battery storage.

Garth and Dave discussed power monitoring at the highway barn and fire department. There are 9 circuits that can be monitored at the highway barn. Garth created graphs and spreadsheets with the most recent data and Curt posted them at www.masonhenergy.org

Tree Planting: Michelle has discussed the tree planting project in October with Wally Brown and Kristin Kivela, and Kristin believes she has a teacher who would be interested. To be determined, if we need BOS approval for this no-cost, mini-project. Michelle will make a 1-page handout for the table at the September Farmer's Market.

Mason Energy Aggregation Committee: Lundy/Dottie/Curt/Michele attended. John Suiter was absent, so they did not have a quorum. Steve Wells may drop out, but Christian Badder may join. They discussed saving space for a meeting in November, and also for January/February. They stated that saving money is not the only incentive. CP can choose to use only renewables, and participants would have a choice of saving the most money, or spending a bit more for supporting green energy sources. Funds are set aside out of Community Power for investments in things like charging stations. Standard Power is a not-for-profit, while others operate differently. Mason Town gets its energy from NRPC, at a cost of \$.085/kwh which is a municipal rate, but this is under a lengthy contract. Sept 25th is the next Energy Aggregation meeting.

Charging stations for Mason: A white paper written by Richard Stockdale was submitted. It was impressively complete, and included the pros and cons of a very small town with no

downtown area. We think it might be good to give this wonderfully detailed White Paper a one page bulleted summary, so that it will entice people to read further! See White Paper for details.

Green Vehicles: Dave attended the gathering last July and is willing to present some of this info at the October meeting. We discussed green buses, and wondered if we should attend School Board meetings with some information on what we have learned. And perhaps gather info from other districts?

Reports from other Towns:

Portsmouth—Community Power stalled during Covid

Temple—nothing on website, but newspaper says meeting was held. Contact there has not responded to emails

Milford—meetings currently being held on C.P.

Atkinson—one month behind Mason

Enfield—no new info on C.P.

As always, check out www.masonnhenergy.org for the latest news, updated weekly by Curt. MEC members are charged with reading one new article each week.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30. Motion was made by Michelle, seconded by Michele, all members approved.