

## Mason Energy Meeting 2-3-2020 7 pm

In attendance: Kathy Chapman, Liz Fletcher, Dave Morrison, Michele Siegmann, Curt Spacht, Garth Fletcher, Doug Whitbeck, Dick Stockdale, Mike McGuire, Michelle Scott, Darrell Scott.

Minutes from January were reviewed. Doug mentioned his 10 year vision contribution was missing from the list. He suggested that VTG (Variable Turbine Geometry) charger that can charge a house can cover short-term outages. Minutes amended to include VTG. Motion was made by Liz to approve minutes as amended, and was seconded by Darrell.

- **Energy Efficiency Tour** planning will be lead by Darrell, and he has begun researching National Solar Tours (NST), the Greenfield, MA tour, and Chester County tour of county, with a focus on businesses. He will research being a part of a NST, or modify to a Mason specific tour.
  - a. We could include vendors who could use Town Hall, or Mason Fellowship Hall
  - b. MEC could create information on a vision for the future of Mason
  - c. Dick has information on Powerwall II Tesla Battery at about \$7,000 for 13.5 kw that lasts about 14 hours. This could be used to replace generator, or solar energy could be used to power up the Powerwall. This could be more relevant when Eversource begins implementing peak demand metering.
  - d. Mike offers that solar will make the grid better in the long run.
  - e. Kathy asks: Any Federal or State tax breaks on Powerwall?
  - f. Darrell needs to know if there is a list of all the residences and businesses using alternative energy in town, and will check with Building Inspector
  - g. **Time for the Alternative Tour was chosen to be during July**—exact date to be decided
  - h. **Suggestions for participation:** have it over 2 days, specific hours, different locations on each of the 2 days, and the following were suggested: Barbara Devore's property, Brian Rater (nearby Brookline), Patricia Gross, Bob Dillberger for geo thermal. A house in the Brookline Airport housing area.
  - i. Check with other towns like Peterborough and Wilton as they have both had tours of this kind.

**Energy Education Committee** Dave is maintaining a dialog with Ms Hooper at the Elementary School, and has offered the help and expertise of the MEC when they decide to make use of the NHEEP kits from VT. Kathy will check with Ms Hooper about a date for the kit event. Kathy or Dave will contact Diane Varney-Parker to see what the Milford Middle school is doing, and Don MacIntosh about the high school in Milford.

**Master Plan Update:** Our diligent Master Plan Committee is working on their contribution to MP of Mason and will have it ready by the end of February. Planning Board put out the survey, and MEC got energy questions in the survey. Congregated housing is not favored by the current Planning Board.

**Energy Aggregation for Mason** This is probably not practical for Mason, but if several towns were to do this, it is possible we would consider joining in.

**Durham Energy Considerations for Residential Housing/Businesses** that are building in town. We have looked at the check list, and at this time MEC feels it would not be mandatory to do any of the things on the list, but would require the new builder to acknowledge that they read the list. We will start with the Building Inspector, Jake Olson and his assistant Bob Bergeron to see how they might envision this use of this check list—which would be adapted to suit our Mason needs. Dave will talk to Jake about getting this suggestion into the Master Plan as part of visioning for the future.

**Board of Selectmen Meetings, Planning Board, and Town Hall meetings.** The MEC will continue to attend BOS meetings and share info that is pertinent to our mission and goals. Curt did this for the last meeting, and sent around some notes. Exciting news is that Kathy took our lighting research and agenda, and presented it to the BOS, and now they are looking into acting upon at least some of the energy savings. See the schedule for attendance at PB meetings. We will wait until the Town Hall Meetings are getting closer to energy decisions. (Should someone be responsible for monitoring minutes of their meetings?)

**Town Meeting on March 14<sup>th</sup>** We would like to have an information table at the meeting, and we looked at getting something that is an attention grabber, like Charlie Moser's "perpetual energy" device. One of us will ask Charlie for permission to use to draw people to our table. Michelle has asked Catherine Schwenk for permission to set up a table, and this was granted, though she says if there's not enough space, we may have to share a table. In March meeting we will decide on what is on the table, and who will be at the table that evening.

- a. We will buy some Energy Bars, or make some?
- b. Dave will have the NHEEP energy kit on display
- c. The weatherization contacts will be available on the table
- d. Ask Denise if there are still bookmarks at the library from the ButtonUp workshop
- e. We also have some brochures on energy from our ButtonUp workshop

**Website for MEC** Kathy proposed we have our own. After discussion about other towns that have this, it was tabled due to expense, and level of energy needed to maintain it for relevance.

**Mason Broadband Committee** Dick reported he had attended their meeting which happens at 6 just before our meeting, and that were at least 30 people there. Some of topics discussed:

- a. Increase DSL: it seems Consolidated is working on this as there are not enough lines at this time
- b. Work on a grant to increase the cable/lines
- c. It was pointed out that if there were more high speed internet, more people could work from home, with gasoline savings as a result.
- d. Dick also mentioned that with 2 lines, he is able to get 25 MB. (This created instant jealous feelings!)

**Portfolio Manager** Darrell will continue to gather this information for our website. The weatherization people wanted us to continue to do that for their data collection. There was uncertainty about who and how this info will be used.

**Clean Energy NH** Our membership will be renewed this year, since we requested a budget and it is included. Liz is managing the details.

**Members:** Curt, Darrell, and Michelle Scott are up for re-appointment, and Michelle contacted Kathy Wile who says she will do this after Town Meeting. She will have the paperwork at that time. We will also make an enthusiastic request to the BOS that Dick Stockdale be added as a MEC member.

**Meeting was adjourned at 8:50** by Dave's motion, and seconded by Liz.

**Minutes submitted by M. Scott** with thank you to Michele Siegmann for help.

