

Energy Committee Meeting
Tuesday, May 27, 2025
Town Office and via Zoom @ 4:30 pm

Present: Yvette Meunier, Stephanie Gardiner, Victoria Boundy, Jackie Cressy
Staff: Skye Siladi
Guests: Chuck Farrell

Introductions

Additions or Rearrange Agenda

Invitation for Public Comment: None

Approval of [4-22-25 meeting minutes](#): Nick 1st, Stephanie 2nd, AIF

Staff Updates:

- [Discussion of Draft Committee Policy](#). This got tabled as the Selectboard got a lot of responses. Keep an eye on future SB meetings; it will likely be addressed at the next meeting.
- CAP emails/outreach: Some emails went out. It was posted at the Highlands and people have mentioned they are going.
- Other

Action Items:

1. Update of Highland & Library Presentations.
 - a. Highlands: Skye and Stephanie joined Jackie at The Highlands. People were interested and engaged and there were a lot of questions. Some folks indicated that they would be attending Town Meeting. There were 20-30 people.
 - b. Library presentations were not as well attended; two people found out via the Library newsletter. There were around 10 folks at the first one and the Saturday event had around 4 people. People were engaged at both. It was moved to a round table format and this led to a good discussion.
2. Outreach to general public for June meeting:
 - a. Use the email list and invite people to the June meeting ('you have been strong supporters and we would like to hear more from you').
 - b. Organize small volunteer actions to at least keep people interested.
 - c. Look into the next GOPIF grant cycle. Skye: The Conservation Commission might be applying in the next round, but potentially the EC could partner with the Conservation Commission.
3. Discuss Town Meeting & Bolster Attendance: Everyone should consider sending out text messages and/or social media posts to encourage people to attend. The Plan

was voted "Ought to pass" by all members, but we should be prepared to defend it.

Talking points:

- a. The numbers of people who have participated in the process (Yvette, per her presentation slide).
 - b. The amount of money that this committee has saved since its inception (Nick)
 - c. Emphasize that it is just a plan.
 - d. Stephanie: Will chime in with a positive word as a newcomer to the EC.
 - e. How will this help the average Topsham taxpayer - emphasize this rather than saving the town money
4. Draft new charge
- a. Name of Committee: Victoria shared some ideas from neighboring towns, e.g. Bath. Stephanie shared a draft committee charge, which essentially involves implementing actions identified in the CAP.
 - b. Priority Projects (reference [Matrix](#)).
 - i. Skye recommended that we prioritize C - website updates with examples of clean energy upgrades and potential cost savings.
 - ii. Proposal to spend our June meeting to workshop the prioritization of actions, cross-checking community votes from the workshop. Stephanie volunteered to create a spreadsheet with an intersection of community input and the final matrix.

Reference Materials

- [Work Plan](#)
- [Current Charges/Guiding Principles](#)

Reminders:

- Town Meeting, Wed. May 28 7PM MTA

2nd Invitation for Public Comment: None

Adjourn - Jackie motion to adjourn, Stephanie 2nd, AIF