

## Energy Committee Meeting

Weds, June 13, 2012

7:00 – 8:45 PM

Town Hall

**Suzy Hodgson, Michelle Lussier, David Pill, Anne Bijur, Gerald Boucher, Dean Bloch, Justin Wygmans. Minute taker: Catherine Hughes**

- 7 pm Chris Gordon - EV Residential New Construction Manager - talked about EV's new program on Advancing Residential Building Energy Standards (RBES). Said it is a pilot program – how EV can help create more energy efficient home construction. Gordon says EV wants to know if there is a local permitting process, how it works, and what the barriers are. EV is looking for 5 or 6 towns to work with. New code went into effect October 1, 2011. It now applies to renovations and repairs in addition to new construction, and applies to 3 stories or less. Builders are responsible for signing off on the RBES (Energy Standards Certificate). Much discussion about Builders not being eager to do this and lack of enforcement. Michelle noted that builders are not doing it commercially because they don't want the liability.
- EV has two new voluntary construction services; Energy Code Plus and VT Energy Star Homes. General discussion of need for a new rating system beyond Energy Star and possible value of including energy rating info on MLS when selling the home.
- No LEED rating unless there is a full gut rehabilitation. Discussion also about the possibility of the Town providing a list of better builders (Wygman) but met with concerns about liability.
- Suzy made a motion that permit fees should be waived if homes meet these new standards plus 50%. There was some discussion about making this revenue neutral to the Town, but someone (Dean?) pointed out that we can only recommend proposals like this to the Selectboard, not institute them. No formal vote was taken.
- Gordon's Power Point Presentation is available on line.

- Minutes from May meeting were neither reviewed nor voted on.
- Michelle was not able to update the Draft RFP for village district energy using renewables in time for this meeting.