

## **Energy Committee Meeting**

January 9th, 2013

7:00 – 8:30 PM

Town Hall

Suzy, Rebecca, Gerald, Bill, Jen, Catherine, Michelle, Lily, David

Catherine showed the video she prepared of the green homes tour.

Bill reported that he was approved as an official member of the Energy Committee at the select board hearing.

Lily –February 11<sup>th</sup> for select board approval.

### **Review Minutes –**

Accepted with some very minor changes

### **Comments about composition of committee –**

Suzy said that Dean felt we should not have an even number. We agreed to have an even number and deal with a tie if it ever happens. We operate on a consensus any way and should be able to handle it – Suzy will let the select board know. Rebecca suggested coming up with some kind of determined bracket for the number of committee members for the future.

### **Energy data for collection –**

Catherine – need someone to fill in all the data points otherwise we will end up spending money for someone else to input. Catherine sent spreadsheet to Charles and asked him to have someone from the town do it. Waited a long time had not heard back. Informally Charles said he would find someone. Then went to Dean...Dean said that no-one from the town should have to do it. Catherine told Dean that this was really Charles' decision. Charles said he would ask someone, and would let Catherine know before our meeting, but has not to this date. Bill commented that there is a fiduciary responsibility of the town to keep track of the energy bills and how they are being paid. It is a tricky time for Mary to do this right now because of the Fire and Rescue audit. Nothing will happen in the next month. Lily said she would be willing to log the data into the spreadsheet that Jen set up. Bill will get files during business hours and give it to Lily.

How do we deal with the town's unwillingness to track its energy use? Can we use this project to shine some light on this issue to the citizens of Charlotte? Do we need to get the select board to do something?

Rebecca suggested we manage this by just doing it ourselves in the short term and then dealing with it later.

Catherine – do we put our foot down and not do the project because we cannot get the data.  
Rebecca – let's not cut off our nose to spite our face.

Bill -- By performing the utility bill tracking it gives us the opportunity to point out potential discrepancies in the bills and highlight the need for the Town staff to be tracking the bills on an on-going basis.

Lily thinks we should proceed with the project and get the data ourselves; despite the obstacles they have given us....we should just find the middle ground.

David – take the high road and just proceed and get the data ourselves.

Bill will go and get the info and Lily will work on it the week after next after exams.

We need the last 12 months of data. For four buildings – Town Hall, Library, Senior Center, Fire Station.

Committee agrees to have better tracking capabilities. – Not sure how to solve that.

### **Energy Control and Management**

Catherine – what do we do about the issue of poor controls?

Jen- Would Moe Harvey be interested in trying to solve our control problems? Jen will ask Moe.

Does the energy committee get involved with how the Town purchases its energy? Should we go to the select board and ask if they would be interested in having us research this.

### **2013 Efficiency Vermont home energy Challenge workshop January 12<sup>th</sup> 2013.**

Discuss possibility of attending. Lily may go.

Meeting adjourned 8:35 pm