Craftsbury Energy Committee

Meeting Notes for Thursday, March 20, 2025, Craftsbury Town Hall

Present: Kevin Gregoire, Christina Finkelstein, Bill Day, Craig Taylor, Ned Houston, Alan Turnbull, Seth Bond

Minutes for the February meeting were approved as written.

Agenda Items

1. Election of Officers
    - Kevin Gregoire: Chair
    - Bill Day: Secretary

2. MERP
    - Jared Waite, structural engineer, will be at Town Hall on Friday, March 21 to evaluate (1) bowing of the north wall and foundation and (2) the roof (for solar panels).
    - Carter Finegan has started monthly meetings of MERP leads in NEK towns for brainstorming, sharing experiences, etc.
    - We discussed the relationship between the Energy Committee and the MERP Working Group. Does a subcommittee need its parent committee to endorse its decisions?
        - Ned moved to resolve that the Energy Committee deputizes the MERP Working Group to make any and all decisions needed to complete the projects covered by the MERP grant. The motion was seconded and approved by voice vote.

3. Window Inserts 2025
    - Window Inserts Raffle. Winner: Annie Meyers (backup: Caitlyn Soderstrom).
    - 30 households have committed to getting inserts this year.
    - The NEGEF grant application, which helps cover subsidized inserts, has been submitted.

4. Student Projects

- Kevin wonders if some EC work – perhaps shadowing the MERP project – could be offered as a CA Senior Project. We need to know more about the Academy's needs and expectations.

5. Outreach
- The EC table at Town Meeting drew lots of traffic.
- 25-30 people attended the March 8 event.
- Upcoming: The Better Building by Design conference, April 2-3.

6. Grants
- At town meeting, the select board approved $500 (unrestricted) for the EC.
- Concept 2 has granted $500 to the EC.
- Follow-up on 2024 grants needs to be completed. Alan will speak with Kevin about helping out with that.
- Kevin applied to Greensboro Association for $1,500 to rent a firewood processor.
- Other applications for 2025 TBD.

7. Firewood
- The question is when and how to process the logs at Dunstan Field.
- Seth Robillard has offered to process everything for $2,800.
- If we rent a processor, trucking needs to be arranged. Ned has a tractor to feed the processor.
- Doing all the work with a processor would take away from the social aspect of our usual method (chainsaws and hand-fed log splitters).
- Volunteer availability:
    - Sterling College Work Days April 7 and May ?.
    - Green Mountain Tech students available April 8.
- Suggestions: Have Green Mountain Tech students buck up logs for Sterling students to split on April 7. Then look into renting processors for a volunteer event later in April or early May. We can get volunteer turnout for scattered processing events, but not for multiple weekends in a row.

8. Next Meeting
- Thursday, April 17, 7:00pm, Craftsbury Town Hall and on Zoom

The meeting was adjourned. Notes submitted by Bill Day