Center Harbor Energy Committee Minutes of Meeting – 15 November 2018

Attendees: Annette Nichols, Bernie Volz, Chris Williams, Carol Sullivan and Selectman Richard Drenkahn.

Annette called the meeting to order about 7:05 p.m.

On-going Business:

Approval of Minutes. The minutes of the meeting of October 4th were approved.

Town Highway Garage Lighting Upgrade Project: discussion of input from J. Lajewski, NHEC

The Committee discussed Carol's communication with Joseph Lajewski on Oct. 5. Joe said that replacing fluorescent tubes on existing ballasts with LED tubes is not an option for us. He recommended going with our original plan of using retrofit kits as laid out in the RFP. As we know, this way we would achieve a 50% rebate on the cost from NHEC.

He suggested talking to an energy service company such as EMC (Energy Management Consultants) (http://emcinc-online.com/services/energy-saving-opportunities) who has a Northeast office in Maine with satellite offices in different locations. They would look at our needs and pair us up with a contractor. Joe also mentioned an electrician out of Plymouth called Ecolectric (https://www.yelp.com/biz/ecolectric-plymouth).

Annette asked committee members opinions on whether we should be flexible in case an electrician has a job cancellation and would be able to do the project for us. So far we have only one proposal and one price. If we could get more proposals/prices and/or input from other contractors, we would be in a better position to be flexible. We also discussed whether Meredith or Moultonborough might have an electrician on staff or one they regularly use. Carol mentioned that Ted VanSant of Holderness (New England Commercial Solar Services) and Larry Mauchly, an electrician from Plymouth who works with PAREI might be have some input.

Bernie will contact EMC to discuss with them the feasibility and cost for them to help us find a electrical contractor for both lighting and an infrared heating system for the Town Highway Garage. Annette will talk to someone in Meredith about electricians they use. Carol will talk to Walter Johnson in Moultonborough, Ted VanSant in Holderness and Larry Mauchly, an electrician in Plymouth as well.

Benchmarking with Portfolio Manager/Recording Town Energy Usage.

Bernie has continued entering electricity usage from NHEC invoices into Google spreadsheets with charts. Carol entered data into Google spreadsheets from Dead River invoices showing propane and heating oil usage (by the Town Garage, the Fire Department and the Library). Richard suggested we organize the propane and heating oil data according to a heating season perspective, e.g. October through May. Annette has some data that she can share with Carol from previous years. We discussed that it would be informative to include heating degree and cooling degree days data in our analysis. This data may not be available for Center Harbor, but may be for Laconia and Plymouth. Annette will provided Carol with data she has from previous years. Carol will enter that data and reformat the data to show it by heating seasons.

Other Business:

Review of 2009 CHEC Workplan

The Committee reviewed the items on the 2009 CHEC Workplan. Summarized below are the results of the committee's comments on specific items in the workplan, identified by number as they appear in the plan. 1 and 3: The use of local building materials and renewable construction materials may be hard to accomplish since area building supply dealers do not offer them and instead offer cheaper products from other areas. 2 and 4: Recycling construction waste in the Meredith/Center Harbor Transfer Station. Annette will talk to Angela in Meredith about how this is currently working and whether there are things to be done to make it work better. 5 and 6: Promote construction standards for new construction that have minimal impact on the environment and ensure healthy interiors. These items are more appropriately addressed through building codes. 7 through 11: Shared building heating pumps, and NH Carbon Challenge are not applicable to Center Harbor and the state at this time. Cluster zoning and development is better addressed by the planning committee in conjunction with the Lakes Region Planning Commission. TO BE CONTINUED.

Review of 2011 CHEC Goals

The committee did not review the 2011 CHEC Goals at this meeting. The document contained many activities from the 2009 Workplan. We agreed to continue working at refining the goals at each committee meeting going forward.

PAREI Update

Carol reported that PAREI had a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the inaugural Solar Shares array in Plymouth. Annette asked how attendance was at the Nov. 1 Squam Lakes Society Button-Up Workshop. Carol will follow up with Sandra and check on other PAREI work and continue to share information with the Committee.

NH Local Energy Solutions Update

The committee discussed the one-day NH Local Energy Solutions Conference to be held the following day (Friday Nov. 16) at the Grappone Center In Concord. Carol was not sure she would be able to attend due to the weather. If she was not able to she would follow up with Sandra Jones, Henry Herndon of NHLES and others to find out information that would be of use to our committee and its projects.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for December 20, 2018 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Carol Sullivan, December 1st, 2018.

Note: Items in red are to flag actions needed.

Addendum: Next meeting was later rescheduled to January 17, 2019.