

Northfield Energy Committee

Minutes of January 19, 2021

Present: NEC Members: Denise MacMartin, Sarah Wolfe, Gail Hall (via Google Meet)

Public Participants: Patrick Meehan, Bob Keeley

Meeting called to order shortly after 6:30 pm by Interim Chair, Sarah Wolfe.

December 2020 minutes were approved.

Community Connections Kiosk: The sign identifying the project is ready for completion, after which it will be posted at the site. Gail is working with others to submit a grant application to Northfield Savings Bank.

Regional Planning Commission: Final documents are now complete and we can use these externally as well as internally. Sarah will write up some posts that highlight the higher-level information (for example Northfield energy use vs. other Central VT towns) that may be of interest to residents and we will post a link on our page at the municipal website.

Northfield Town Plan: Some discussion of the areas that have been highlighted for us. The planning commission would like us to join them at their February 3 meeting. All members present plan to attend.

Utility Commission: Sarah attended the January Utility Commission meeting where she connected with our advisor, Stephen Fitzhugh. The solar project currently in development has had some delays but is moving forward.

EV Charging Station: There appears to be support for a charging station but questions about location. Our initial idea of near the police station appears to not be desirable due to perceived lack of parking. The group decided to explore possibilities to bring to a future discussion.

Energy Efficiency Project 2021: Discussion regarding potential buildings, how to select a building through community input, how to get started, and other town groups that may be partners. We will bring this up with the Planning Commission on February 3. Sarah will approach the Conservation Commission and Utility Commission; Gail will check with NCDN and Northfield Ridge & River Routes.

Committee Positions: Denise wants to step down from the role of secretary when her term is up in March. There was discussion of positions and terms, and the following decisions were made by consensus: Sarah will continue as Chair, a change from "Interim" (the term ends in 2022); Gail will serve as secretary (a two-year term starting March 2021 and ending March 2023); Bob will serve as Vice-Chair (three year term running March 2021 to March 2024); Patrick will serve as Treasurer (three year term running March 2021 to March 2024). Denise would like to continue as a public member and also retain social media administrator access to help maintain the Facebook page. Bob and Patrick will send Sarah bio information to include with proposed changes to the Select Board who approves the committee configuration and appointments.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Denise MacMartin, NEC Secretary