

Approved

Gilmanton Energy Committee

June 9, 2021

Present: Nate Abbott, Aimee Ruiter, Cyndi Paulin, Sue Hale-de Seve, Vincenzo Sisti, Dick de Seve, Graham Wilson, Elise Smith, Sarah Thorne, Joe Irving

Meeting began at 7:07 p.m.

Nate made the obligatory opening announcements.

**Solarize Campaign status update and Solar Tour:** Aimee and Vincenzo. Sunflower signed another contract on Tuesday, now up to 6. Several more are near, should end June with 10 contracts signed. Have 25 proposals still outstanding. Word of mouth still the best way to get the word out. Nate suggested a potential fall "kick off" event. Aimee: the Tour was fun, had up to 10-12 folks at different times during the Tour. The first stop was at an ostrich farm. Vincenzo suggested another Tour in September. Sue noted that Gilmanton celebrates Old Home Days on the third Saturday in August. Sunflower is booked out that weekend, but Nate suggested perhaps the Energy Committee could host a table there.

**Nate, Cyndi discussed the Button Up workshop.** Attendance was not as high as hoped. Very good presentation. One aspect was fundamentals of heat propagation and heat loss; the other part was the overall utility expense, heat sources vs. energy costs. Discussed different types of water and other heaters; energy conservation should be the first consideration in any alternative energy process. Andy Duncan and Ted, an installer who has worked with Plymouth Area Renewable Energy Initiative (PAREI) were the presenters for the program. Many local energy utilities run a NH Saves energy audit program. NH Saves reimburses ratepayers for qualified investments in energy conservation/weatherization carried out by a private firm. Cyndi had hoped the program would have connected the Button Up program with the Solarize program.

Sarah Thorne said that Joe Irving will attend our July meeting to discuss the Gilmanton School energy audit.

**Energy Audit:** program starts on June 18. Starts at the Iron Works fire station and then to the Transfer Station. June 22 will include the rest of the buildings included in the audit proposal. The report will be submitted by the end of the summer. Then we will need to look at priorities to propose to the Selectmen and Budget Committee in the fall. Nate asked if committee members need to attend. Sarah says all are welcome, but not necessary. Sarah will be attending and will provide a detailed report.

The next order of business was to review the minutes of the May 26, 2021. Sarah moved, Graham seconded approval. Approved.

**Newspaper Article:** Aimee and Ethan Warren worked on an article that was published in the Laconia Daily Sun. Nate is working on an article relative to the Energy Audits. Sarah will write up notes from the audits, with the idea of then having that published.

Nate reviewed the Committee's work to date, noted the amount of work already accomplished. Produces a great deal of momentum on energy efficiency, conservation, alternative energy.

We'll do the second Wednesday in July, then go to the third Wednesday of each ensuing month.

Adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dick de Seve, Secretary