

DRAFT

Gilmanton Energy Committee Meeting

January 21, 2020, 7 p.m.

Gilmanton School, Room 11

Minutes

The meeting was opened at 7:00 p.m by acting chair Dick de Seve. Also present were Sarah Thorne, Aimee Ruiter, Vincenzo Sisti, Sue Hale-de Seve, Nate Abbott. Member Cyndi Paulin was absent due to a family emergency.

The members present engaged in a short introduction of each other, including their interests in the committee and the information and expertise each brings to the committee.

Following introductions, the committee elected its initial slate of officers. Elected were Sarah Thorne, chair; Aimee Ruiter, vice-chair, Dick de Seve, recording secretary. Nate Abbott agreed to coordinate the committee's page on the Town website.

The committee members agreed to continue to meet at the Gilmanton School on the third Tuesday of each month. Decisions on continuing to meet through the summer will be made later.

Sarah Thorne led a discussion about the committee's responsibilities under the Right to Know law, including notice of meetings, posting meeting agendas, filing meeting notes and providing draft meeting minutes within the time required by the statute. The committee includes 7 members, so 4 members attending a meeting will constitute a quorum.

The committee agreed to to work on educating the Gilmanton community on the benefits of conservation and energy efficiency so as to obtain support for seeking solutions for perceived issues and to work for tangible successes aimed at providing those benefits to the Town and its residents.

The committee will maintain regular communication with the select board and the school board to report on progress and coordinate our efforts with each of these boards and to solicit the support of those boards for the committee's efforts and projects.

There was discussion about various other towns' energy committees and how we might learn from and coordinate with those other committees, as well as other organizations that committee members are affiliated or familiar with that might aid in our efforts and projects.

Committee members terms are presently set at one year. Eventually, those terms will likely be extended and staggered for continuity purposes.

The committee discussed developing and signing a conflict of interest statement by each member, as is customary and required for various other non-profit or municipal boards and committees.

Meetings will normally run 90 minutes, unless the committee is working on a particular issue or project

that might require more time to develop.

The committee further discussed other local energy action possibilities, several of which have already been attained, including forming the energy committee and holding a “button-up” workshop for Town homeowners. Other possibilities include energy audits and inventories for municipal and school users, energy use recommendations and projects to attain those energy saving and conservation recommendations. We also briefly discussed solarize campaigns and how those might be implemented in Gilmanton. We hope also to bring several energy-related films to Town residents, including especially school students and their parents as part of our education and discussion efforts. Aimee Ruiter offered to pursue a LED bulb sale with the Gilmanton School students, working with the first grade class of Katie Bass and NH Saves.

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Thorne at 8:30 p.m. Our next meeting will be held Tuesday, February 18, 2020 at 7:00 at the Gilmanton School.

Respectfully submitted.

Dick de Seve, recording secretary