

Approved

Gilmanton Energy Committee Meeting

Wednesday February 16, 2022

Academy Building

Gilmanton, NH

7 p.m.

Present: Sue Hale-de Seve, Aimee Ruiter, Dick de Seve, Cyndi Paulin, Nate Abbott, Sarah Thorne, Elise Smith. Vincenzo Sisti was absent.

Nate opened the meeting at 7:10.

Nate will assure that we have this building for our March 16, 2022 meeting.

Review of minutes: Sarah motioned, Sue seconded approval. Aimee requested an amendment to explain why it is important for the GEC to sign on to approve HB . Approved with amendment.

Solarize Campaign: Nate said the Abbotts have had their solar array connected to the NH Electric Coop. Producing good power in the first week of operation. Sarah noticed that the sign in front of the library seems to have a good deal of white space on it for quite a while. Sarah wondered if we should have another Solar campaign in 2022. If not, we should have a wrap up event; Nate said we should discuss this in March. Cyndi suggested continuing discussion of an ongoing campaign.

PUC decision: the PUC reversed its decision, temporarily reinstating NHSaves subsidy levels from 2020. Still have a problem with PUC commissioners not supporting energy efficiency. The utilities also strongly supported reversing that decision. Presently an open seat exists on the PUC, the head of the commission having resigned.

GOTV effort for the warrant article: Nate thinks the best thing to do is stand outside the voting building with signs. Tuesday, March 8, 7 a.m. - 7 p.m. Nate will put up a sign up sheet on Google Docs. Sarah can make handouts. Nate believes that large signs are most effective. Sarah offered to make signs, has posts and poster material. Nate started getting volunteers for shifts that day. Dick suggested letters to the editor in the local papers. Sarah will write a letter, Nate still has material from his earlier article. Try to get the letters in by February 25. Sarah suggested updating the Facebook page. The Article is #11. Members should also try to send messages to friends asking for support.

New Business: Aimee wondered about flyers; Cyndi is willing to make them, but felt she needed more information. Sarah has developed good information for a flyer, and will share it with Cyndi to help develop the flyers. Cyndi will send around the flyer electronically to print more flyers. Nate will submit receipts to the Selectmen to pay out of our budget.

Sarah announced that she will be moving at some time in the near future, to downsize and simplify, so

she will be moving to Holderness. Once she has moved, she will continue to assist the Committee and the Town in any way she can to continue to develop the program and implement the measures approved. Nate agreed that Sarah will be a lifetime Friend of the Committee. Nate suggested we all begin to look for new members: they can take Sarah's spot, but never match her contributions. Sarah will miss us all, but is very excited about what we've accomplished.

Aimee: HR 17, opposing a price on carbon in NH. 140 opposed this HR, 4 supported. Committee voted 11-10 on party lines Ought to Pass. Still an opportunity to reach out to our representatives to oppose the bill.

Dick moved, Sarah seconded adjournment.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50. Nate promised to get the agenda posted a week ahead of time.

Respectfully submitted,

Dick de Seve, secretary

Nate summarized the discussions and decisions made during the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00. Next meeting will be Monday, Feb. 21 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dick de Seve, secretary.