

Approved

Gilmanton Energy Committee Meeting

Wednesday March 22, 2023

Academy Building

Gilmanton, NH

6:30 p.m.

Present: Elise Smith, Aimee Ruiter, Dick de Seve, Cyndi Paulin. Kyle McAdam was absent.

Elise opened the meeting at 6:34.

Review of minutes: Elise motioned, Aimee seconded approval. Approved.

Elise swore in Sue and Dick for another 3 year term as GEC members.

Status of the LED project. Members attended the Selectmen's meeting to hear Chase Pennoyer describe the problems that had arisen with the contractor. RBG will be rebating some of the funds due to the delay in starting the project. The contractor will complete the project once the necessary materials arrive. The project will now be limited to the fire station. Some new lighting will be placed in one of the sand sheds, probably the one on Stage Road. We will review the project progress at the next meeting.

Status of Earth Day event: the Selectmen approved covering the event with the Town's liability insurance policy. Sue discussed the updated event promotional material. Sarah Thorne will attend until noon that day, as she has another event to attend. Cathy Corkery of the Sierra Club will bring several EV's, as will Elise. Evan Collins, Selectman and electrician, is excited about the event. We will get information on several other elements and potential participants for the event shortly. Sue and others discussed places to put promotional information about the event.

Dick discussed the community power program that several communities have adopted in an effort to save significant money on residential power bills. Committee members will research the program to determine if it's worth pushing in Gilmanton. The program is run through the Community Power Coalition.

Elise: Laurie Baldwin from the Conservation Commission's Trails subcommittee contacted her seeking further information on the Earth Day Event. This has been provided. The Trails subcommittee hopes to lead a hike on the Cogswell Mountain Conservation Area behind the Year Round Library.

Univix facility tour: Elise was very excited about the reuse/recycling of almost all materials used in the process of manufacturing carbon based batteries for solar and other power sources. We discussed the various ways the company uses materials easily available, less expensive.

Aimee reported that she has contacted the Gilmanton School's energy committee, letting them know we'd like to coordinate with them whenever possible.

Elise let us know that the Town is encouraging participation in No Mow May. This is a program to allow bees to have more time to access flowers and other sources of pollination. Town departments will be encouraged to participate in the program.

Next meeting is April 19, 2023.

Adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dick de Seve, secretary