

Marshfield and Plainfield Energy and Climate Change committee
Monthly meeting minutes, December 3rd, 2018, 7:00pm
Downstairs library area

Committee members in attendance: Nick Seifert, Becky Wigg, Wes Cate, Anne Miller,
Members of the public in attendance: Rich Phillips, Michael Billingsly, Amanda Carlson

- Draft agenda for next meeting
 - Select a facilitator
 - Anne Volunteered
 - Public comment
 - Announcements
 - None.
 - Agenda modification
 - Added times to the agenda.
 - Approval of previous minutes
 - Motion to approve previous minutes, seconded.
 - Approved.
 - Business
 - Act 174 update
 - Handing out hard copies for review.
 - Plan is for people to provide comments to Nick at the January meeting.
 - Nick will then incorporate these comments into a final draft.
 - Nick will get Bonnie to review this.
 - Nick will work with the PC to share this document and discuss next steps.
 - Update on planned activities (winter bazaar, etc) (if needed)
 - Winter bazaar is passed. Twinfield Craft Fair has passed as well.
 - Cabot has a craft fair coming up, but probably doesn't make sense since Cabot has their own committee.
 - The Jimmy Kennedy breakfast might be a good occasion to table, or generally hand out EC information. Consider auctioning off an audit, or something else beneficial like this.
 - VECAN conference
 - Rich enjoyed the conference. He attended a Municipal Solar session, and also a weatherization session.
 - The Municipal solar session was helpful, and Rich had some interesting information from this.
 - The Weatherization session was also good.
 - There was a lot of information on advanced heating, and pellet fuels.
 - Rich also mentioned that Efficiency VT does have a program related to multi-resident housing (apartments, duplexes, etc). There are some benefits available to people for doing efficiency work. "3E Thermal".
 - Amanda also went to VECAN.
 - She attended a session on how to get "beyond the choir". The basic method was don't talk about climate change. Had some other good information and perspectives on how to approach this.
 - Also attended a transportation and zoning session, but doesn't have as much applicability to Marshfield.
 - Discussion about the Marshfield Dam.
 - Michael gave a quick summary of the history of the dam issues, and actions taken by Plainfield, the PUC, GMP, etc.
 - There is a visit to the dam scheduled for Thursday the 6th. This will be to visit: the power generation facility, and part of Peacham Pond as well. As of yet no one from Marshfield has registered to attend this.
 - The initial investigation of dam safety has been re-opened, and made more formal. ANR has now signed on as a party to this investigation. This is now an active case. Any safety concerns will be addressed by this investigation if they are not handled by the other PUC CPG case.
 - Michael is asking for help to get Marshfield involved in the dam safety case. And also to get someone involved in the dam visit going on this week.
 - Nick asked how much Marshfield's participation in the investigation is important for ensuring that the dam be fixed.
 - Michael believes that Marshfield being involved in this will definitely ensure that GMP is held accountable. Most import is to be involved with the initial investigation, and for Marshfield to become a party to that.
 - Nick will email Bobbi and request time on the 12/11 selectboard meeting to discuss this.
 - Climate change discussion follow up meetings (if needed).
 - Twinfield solar and weatherization update (if needed).
 - For Twinfield, on November 20th they got the schoolboard to agree it was OK to apply for the charging station grant. They did submit this by the deadline, and Rich feels this was a very strong application. They should hear something about whether this is accepted or not in January.

- Regarding Twinfield weatherization Rich has reviewed the quotations and past work. Weatherizing the eaves was quoted at \$64k, which Rich thinks is too expensive. Rich has the information needed to re-quote this, so is planning to get schoolboard approval to do that.
- Plainfield is one of the “Hero” towns for weatherization. They have a starting event on 12/4 at the fire station in Plainfield from 6-8pm.
 - The basic benefit of the “hero” program is that energy audits are free, which should help reduce the barriers to understanding what work is needed.
- Rich has gotten approval from Efficiency VT for Marshfield to participate in Plainfield’s program.
- Rich also mentioned the DIY program for weatherization on Efficiency VT’s website. This includes videos on how to do common, “low hanging fruit” type activities. If you do 3x of them, then EVT will give a \$100 rebate for materials.
 - This has a February 1 2019 deadline to submit for this rebate.
- Discussion about grants or money for charging station grant application.
 - Discussion about next steps, and what needs to get done. Try to resolve the payment issue.
 - Marshfield did not submit an application, but the hope is to submit one for the next round (if it happens).
 - Still need to figure out the payment issue.
 - Rich has information on how they approached this for Twinfield. There is a payment company who will deal with all the logistics.
- Update on book/video purchases (if needed)
 - Anne bought one video: Breath of Life.
 - She also had a book recommendation, but the Library already owns it (Growing a Revolution).
- Plainfield update
 - Michael has two updates:
 - Michael explained that: Tom McClay is the emergency management coordinator for Marshfield, and is the person who would respond in the event of an emergency. During emergencies CVRPC is the “hub” for coordinating emergency responses. There is a new person at CVRPC who is responsible for this coordination.
 - Michael recommends that Tom ensure that Marshfield’s contact list is up to date.
 - Not sure how the Energy Committee addresses this.
 - Michael believes that the Goddard haybarn / shelter (which is for emergency situations) is likely going to close. Michael is the existing shelter manager, as the other one had resigned, and Michael is getting ready to resign. This would mean that Marshfield will not have any type of emergency shelter available.
 - Rich thought that the OSC was to be the emergency shelter, as there was just a backup generator installed there.
 - It is unclear if this has actually been implemented, or if this is just a topic of discussion.
- Discussion about weatherization, and possible purchase of IR camera. (if needed)
 - No discussion needed on this at this time.
- Draft agenda for next meeting
 - Select a facilitator
 - Public comment
 - Announcements
 - Agenda modification
 - Approval of previous minutes
 - Business
 - Act 174 update
 - Copies with edits should be returned to Nick. Digital or hard copies are fine.
 - Update on planned activities (Jimmy Kennedy Breakfast; Plainfield community supper)
 - Discussion about the Marshfield Dam.
 - Update from dam visit, selectboard visit.
 - Climate change discussion follow up meetings (if needed).
 - Twinfield solar and weatherization update, charging station grant (if needed).
 - Discussion about charging station grant application (if needed)
 - Update on book/video purchases (if needed)
 - Plainfield update
 - Discussion about weatherization (if needed)
 - Discussion about multi-unit home weatherization efforts.
 - Possible purchase of IR camera.
- Draft agenda for next meeting