



Town of Huntington



Huntington Energy Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 19, 2017 @ 7:00 pm

→ Town Office (Downstairs) - Huntington Center ←

Attendance: Miranda Keir, Duncan Keir, Nayo Ogilvie, Ross Ogilvie, Natalia Czar, Dave Clark

7:00 Call to Order & Agenda Review / Proposed Changes – 5 Minutes

- The meeting started at 7:10 PM

7:05 Approval of Last Meeting Minutes - 5 Minutes

- December's minutes were approved

7:10 Public Comment – 5 Minutes

- Miranda Keir and Nayo Ogilvie both agreed they would like to be members of the Energy Committee. Ross will follow up with the select board proposing them as members of the Energy Committee.

7:15 HEC Membership update– 10 min

- *Congratulations to Duncan Keir our latest HEC Member*
- *Next steps in the outreach for new membership*

Miranda Keir said she would follow up with Jamie Montague to see if she or Larry are interested in serving on the committee.

7:25 Three phase power in Huntington – 15 Minutes

- *Duncan Keir has been investigating 3 phase power in Huntington. Update from Duncan on his findings.*
Three phase power:

Duncan: GMP has three phase manually from Richmond, terminates at Birds Eye Construction. Then into the village, it is two phase. From Birds Eye it is 1 mile to the Huntington Town Line, 1.4 to Sherman Hollow. Bird's Eye to Beaudry's is 3.1 miles. To the fire station is 5.8 miles. GMP would have to go 6 miles, only need one more wire.

VEC has three phase from Hinesburg through Sherman's Hollow, VEC goes over the Mayo Road, Gillette Pond Road, VEC goes three ways - two wires - not even two phase.

First item in the Town Plan is to encourage residents to be able to work within the community. Would three phase power help with that? Selectboard is concerned we would end up with solar arrays; what types of businesses would it attract? We have pretty tight zoning in town. Duncan does not think restriction should take place via restricting three phase power. Brewster Pierce is already spending a lot of money to upgrade.

Dave: The matter came up at the Selectboard meeting, and GMP was reluctant.

Duncan: Who said that GMP was reluctant? Would they reconsider if Huntington petitioned? What is the cost?

Dave: The cost of a third line, power outages, etc.

Nayo: Does the efficiency go up?

Ross: We think so.

Duncan: This limits Brewster Pierce.

Ross: At the meeting with engineer he said we need a bigger panel. The three phase panel that we have is not big enough for the power that we will be consuming. GMP says if we upgrade our panel, we should go to single phase. But we do not know if it would change the heat pump system that they are using. Engineer will investigate, but it is not clear that there is a savings. The start date is June 18 - after school ends. The bids are going out now.

The timeframe does not work. Bob Dostis might be a good source, as he works at GMP. Dave Clark will contact and make a pitch.

A selectboard member is concerned about large solar arrays. We have five one acre parcels that are interested. Suncommon has rejected parcels, partially because of aesthetics. With three phase power you gain efficiency with converters. The one acre plots are the 300 kw regions. Dave asks Ross to send him details before he talks to Robert Dostis.

No point in looking at solar arrays until we get an idea of price per mile from Dostis. Maybe finding the cost per mile? We need to consult Act 174 about whether the town has any say to location of projects. Ross is trying to contact.

Can we have informational on how Act 174 would affect placement of solar arrays? If people have wooded plots they could place them there without affecting the aesthetics.

7:40 BPMS update from Ross – 5 Minutes

- *Update from the last meeting (plan rollout) with the LN engineering and Jeff Forward*
- *Solar power generation and net metering options to get BPMS to net zero*

Ross mentioned the meeting between the building BPMS energy committee LN engineering and Jeff Forward to review the list of contractors being considered. The design is finished and will now be going out to bid to the contractors on the list.

7:45 Carbon Forum(s), continuing discussion and thoughts - 25 Minutes

- *Anne Dannenberg and Ross Ogilvie have been talking about HPL, HEC & HHCT jointly sponsoring a series of community programs on Carbon. Perhaps a series of 1 to 2 hour presentation segments or forums over a several month period to include:*
 - a. Start with Duncan's idea, Movie showing "Before The Flood": Leonardo DiCaprio*
 - b. Your carbon footprint*
 - i. (Perhaps HEC members {present data from the Web and other available information}*
 - ii. MMU High School Chemistry kids fun facts {describe the chemistry of burning fossil fuels and wood products and the resulting chemical compounds including CO2 weight and CO2 gas volume}*
 - iii. other experts?*
 - c. Forest CO2 sequestration (??)*

d. Ag land CO2 sequestration (Judith Schwartz?: Cows save the Planet , Justin Rich?: Burnt Rock Farm)

- *Any thoughts for other segments or speakers?*
- *Some of these speakers are likely to charge for a presentation. Do we want to use some (all) of the HEC budget to support this?*

Sequestration.

Ross Ogilvie: Anne Dannenburg wants to do a carbon forum. Judith Schwarz (Cows Save the Planet) would be willing to come up and have a give a talk, She expects an hour.

Dave: An hour is too long. We need to break this into several sessions - each topic can take up an hour, which is about the limit for most people.

Judith probably charges. The committee has \$300. What if we have a potluck at a family friend hour, and make it a combination with a community event. Miranda will contact Anne Dannenburg. Other people who could speak are Justin Rich from Burnt Rock farm.

Ross: Ive been reading a book, that half of carbon buildup comes from plowing up farm land. But the claimm is, if you plant, let the cows in, let the chickens to scratch it all around, and replant, that puts carbon back in the ground.

Miranda suggests we could do a bookclub, AND forums for people who don't like bookclubs. A bookclub of eight people, reading three books speaking to different areas of energy usage - say, cows, electric cars - read for one month, then discuss. What can we do with this? Libraries can order in copies of the book.

Advertise that we are starting a series.

The first event will be the movie Before the Flood, combined with the potluck. Miranda will start working on the book club.

The second event, four to six weeks later would be passing along information on carbon footprint, passing along websites to figure out what your footprint is. Maybe have some chemistry students come and explain. Maybe set up a science fair.

Third event could be electric vehicles and bikes. Where could we get them from?

Fourth event could be to have a forester come and talk. Forest sequestration and carbon sequestration.

Fifth event would be solar.

First event:

March 18th. Potluck at 6:00, movie at 6:30. Movie is about 2 hours. Ogilvies will get a DVD projector and the movie. Natalia will check on the church annex. Reach out to: Larry Detweiler - also ask if there is a projector there. (Doubt it.) Natalia - reach out to the Times Inc. Speak at town meeting, have a sign up sheet. Miranda - have a laptop with a preview running. She will make a poster and a sign up sheet and a spiel. Who is in charge of the agenda for town meeting?

8:10 Our State Representatives, towns people, and Larry Montague meeting on climate change follow up - 5 Minutes

- *Summary of the meeting*
- *What can we do to further the cause?*

- Dave Clark will send an email to representation, especially the senators, to remind them to not let this drop.

8:15 Follow-up Discussion regarding Hydro power production in Huntington 5 Minutes
We will postpone discussion on hydropower till next meeting.

8:20 Other/New Business – 5 Minutes

8:25 Wrap-up – 5 Minutes

8:30 Adjourn

DRAFT