

**Town of Guilford**  
**Energy Committee Meeting Notes – Draft**

6:00 pm Thursday, March 24, 2022, via zoom

**Call to order:** 6:04pm

**Energy Committee Members Present:** Nancy Detra, Jen McDuffie, Thayer Tomlinson, Ann Zimmerman

**Recognition of Public:** Michael Becker (SelectBoard member)

**Updates & Discussion:**

- Member Updates
  - Nancy gave an update on the Window Dressers program –
    - The program encouraged the committees to get started organizing 2022 builds around now when people are thinking about weatherization based on the winter season.
    - Insert assembly will happen in 2022 October 20 – 26<sup>th</sup> at Winston Prouty gym (same location as last year). Ann volunteered to be the volunteer coordinator again in 2022 (was in that position in 2021).
    - Already have 20 people signed up for window inserts (Front Porch Forum generated 5 new people, some who got inserts last year want more, others signed up on the Window Dressers website). Nancy will ask about the payment system that is used in ME.
    - To highlight this on the Guilford Town website, Jen suggested we include FAQs (can also copy information from the Window Dressers program). Nancy offered to work on the website page for the Window Dressers program. Need volunteers for measuring and advertising. Ann can pull the post from the Guilford FaceBook page from 2021 that we can use to advertise this year’s event.
    - Nancy reminded the Committee about sending a post card to all residents of Guilford. Peder had suggested we use town funds to send to all Guilford residents.
- Visioning and Goals for 2022 activities: Consensus on 2022 goals to present to SelectBoard
  - Window Dressers event (as highlighted above)
  - Thayer highlighted the comprehensive energy strategy for the Town; expansion of the energy portion of the Town Plan with focus on weatherization, energy use reduction (heating/cooling, electricity, transportation), renewable energy production/incentive, transportation opportunities. GHG reductions or mainly focus on energy?
    - Jen noted the importance of auditing buildings to understand where are buildings are – and understand the next steps with each building. Then we can make clear recommendations for next steps for each building. What is the baseline and where would we like to go?
    - Library extension – Ann highlighted opportunities for solar and heating at the new library.

- Evaluating the Town-owned vehicles and buildings on life-time replacement for increased efficiency. Michael is working to update the goals of the Town – and has been working on the building updates for Town-owned buildings. He also noted that there is a timeline and budget for vehicle replacement. Our committee could do research and plan for replacement for vehicles and look into biodiesel options as well as EV chargers.
  - For EV chargers, there may be an option with the Windham Winsor housing trust in Algiers.
- A big part of our role is to education and highlighting to the public what is happening in Town.
- Guilford Pedestrian/Bike Pathway – The Energy Committee would like to be involved in more meetings with the engineers on this work. Michael noted that when the next meeting is announced, he'll share with the Energy Committee members. It would be helpful to have one of the Energy Committee members be a liaison to that work. The Energy Committee members nominated Chris in absentia.
- Michael feedback: We should work to be involved in the ARPA funds discussions. In terms of an energy plan, it's a good idea but how can the Town implement those ideas sooner rather than later. He suggested we focus on the following immediate opportunities:
  - Participating in meetings (library) where building updates are discussed is a good opportunity to insert ideas on energy efficiency.
  - For example, for the new library roof, could it be designed to easily accommodate solar even if solar panels are not financially an option at this time?
- VECAN presentation debrief – Ann and Jen attended the VECAN meeting. Ann has an email follow up with a recording of the meeting with all the slides. There was a lot of information on ARPA funding; there are recommendations for energy committees to work closely with SelectBoards to gain access to funds for GHG reductions. Ann will share with the rest of the Energy Committee members. ARPA funds can be used as matching funds to leverage other funds that may be available.
- Climate Impacts from Land Management Practices (Agriculture) – will discuss at the next meeting.

**Schedule Next Meeting:** April 28<sup>th</sup>; 6pm

**Close of Meeting:** 7:07pm