

Dunbarton Energy Committee Meeting Minutes, Jan. 21, 2013

Members Present: Bob Ray, Lee Richmond, Kris Hanson, Wayne Bracy, Ted Vallieres, John Stevens

Meeting opened at 7:11 PM

1. Public Comment

None

2. Minutes approval

Approved

3. Report on Jan. 17 Micro-Hydro presentation in Henniker attended by Wayne and John.

Micro-Hydro differs from other hydros as it extracts water from a stream, runs it through the turbine and puts it back in the stream. There is no impoundment (dam). Typically needs 100 feet of head to be economically viable. Typical project cost is about \$25,000 and can supply several homes. Regulatory rules currently make permitting very expensive if the power is to be fed to the grid.

4. Project reports:

Lighting:

Safety Complex and School lighting projects are complete, users are pleased with the improved lighting, operating costs which are approximately half that of the lighting replaced.

Button Up Workshop:

A Roundtable sub-committee is working on continuing this series if funding is not reinstated. Larger presentations at central locations are an option.

Local residents' home energy improvements performed by DEC members:

Will focus mostly on infiltration, air sealing. Members will learn how to do this work effectively and to learn to what extent we can do this within our abilities. Courses and videos are being reviewed that will provide the necessary education. We are in touch with the Episcopal church to offer what assistance we can with the energy audit they had conducted.

School solar:

George Holt was unable to attend but sent a report. After consultation with the manufacturer's representative, it appears that the red deposit observed in the drainback tank sight glass is either iron from the original filling or anti-corrosion additives in the water. Likely not biological deposits as the water temperature can reach 200 deg. The water level should be checked annually and possibly re-filled with distilled water.

School RCx heating system evaluation:

Site work is complete. The School CIC is working with the contractor to clarify and identify the action items in the report.

5. Community outreach, new ideas.

Central NH Local Energy Committee Roundtable:

The committee organizer, an employee of the CHNRPC, where the committee was meeting, has left because the funding for her position has expired and she has accepted a job elsewhere. John will contact her supervisor and other members to determine how or whether the committee will continue.

Transitions:

We will contact the Library to see how/whether their role in Transitions will continue and grow.

6. Publicity:

Can we post notes on Hot Topics on the Town's new webpage?

Can we send community topic notices or announcements through the Library's e-mail?

7. New Business:

None

Next meeting Monday, Feb, 18, 2013.

Meeting adjourned 8:58 PM

Respectfully submitted: John Stevens