

Approved Meeting Notes

Renewable Energy Task Force Meeting on January 25, 2021

The Zoom meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM

Present were Rob Wills, Thom Whitcomb and Bev Edwards

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Chairman, Rob Wills, opened the meeting leading a discussion about the importance of making a decision regarding the placement/site for our Task Force's recommendation for a potential solar array to present to the BOS and Temple Land Use Committee.

Thom brought up the report from the Land Use Committee. He suggested that, given the various anticipated alterations in location for the Highway Department and possibly other buildings, it would be beneficial for our committee to make its preference known now for a viable site for the recommendation we are planning to make for a solar installation to cover the electricity needs of the all the town's municipal buildings.

The discussion continued, clarifying our need for stating the importance of making a clear and well-reasoned choice of land for our recommendation and presenting that to the BOS and Land Use Committee. Rob reiterated the benefits we had noted in our last meeting for the available land near TES that Tim Fiske, Chairman of the Land Use Committee, had suggested for us to use.

Rob also pointed out that it would not behoove the town to sell that land to prospective home builders due to the land's slant toward the reservoir. Bev agreed, especially due to the possible leaking from septic systems or leaching fields downhill into the reservoir.

The committee voted unanimously to bring this request to the BOS. Rob agreed to speak to the board first.

Tom brought the unfortunate news from CENH to the group that there is a legislative bill at the state level attempting to reduce the benefits to towns for greater control of their energy costs. Sponsored by NH's utility companies, it has put Community Power Plans on hold as the bill goes through its process.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bev Edwards