

## Draft Minutes

### Town Of Marlboro Energy Committee Meeting

Thursday, April 3, 2023, 6:00pm

Attendees (in-person & via Zoom): Tamara Stenn, Kate Kirkwood, Erika Kolb, Robin MacArthur, Ryan Williams, Nick Morgan (Town Admin)

Call to Order @ 6:02p

Identify Any Changes To Agenda: None

#### **New Business:**

##### Organization:

Please note that Tamara and Kate have been appointed by the Marlboro Select Board, but other members, Erika, Robin, & Ryan have not yet been officially approved by the SB. The following nominations and vote on officers will therefore be re-affirmed at the next meeting once all members have been approved:

- Kate Kirkwood nominated for Chair (Williams/Stenn) – Passed unanimously
- Ryan Williams nominated for Vice-Chair (MacArthur/Stenn) – Passed unanimously
- Erika Korb nominated as Secretary (Williams/Kirkwood) – Passed unanimously

The Committee elected to hold its regular meetings on the first Monday of the Month @ 6pm at the Town Office and via Zoom.

The Committee has created an published a general email address: [MarlboroEC@gmail.com](mailto:MarlboroEC@gmail.com)

Nick reported on the following:

- That he has sent a link to the MERP Webinar to the Committee via email and noted that there was not a great deal of new information above and beyond his notes on the meeting he had with MERP coordinator, Margo Ghia.
- That he has reached out to “Window Dressers” for information and will convey any information to the Committee.
- Brought the EC up-to-speed on the discussions that were held on creating a “Warming Center” for the Town at the Marlboro Community Center. While not something really in the EC’s bailiwick, it was a good discussion about using MCC and other town buildings as emergency warming shelters. Jay Sparks, the Emergency Management director, will be making additional suggestions and helping to coordinate. Discussion really was about more than just a warming center, but how the town can be better prepared and help residents in emergency situations. Nick advised that he would continue to keep the EC updated.
- The \$4,000 MERP mini-grants are “open” and the best advice he received was to request the full amount and spend the funds as needed while doing all necessary reporting. Nick also relayed the advice that while requesting the full amount is a good idea, it is very important to organize a plan and a budget before expending any funds.

Tamara discussed her interactions with Efficiency VT and their ability to supply information and kits for local residents and felt that this would be an excellent part of an “Energy Fair” which could be a major component of the EC’s plan for the mini-grant (Tamara reported that Efficiency VT . It was the sense of the Committee that this was a very good idea and further work and development should be done in preparations for further discussions at next month’s meeting. Tamara noted that she would continue to gather information from Efficiency VT and work on further plans for an Energy Fair and how the EC could leverage the information and items Efficiency VT has prepared for residents.

The Committee also discussed best practices for moving forward, including potentially forming more “Ad-Hoc” committees with members of the Select Board and other Town Commissions. This would allow for more efficiency in discussing plans and coming up with solutions and programs to benefit the town and its residents.

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The Committee reviewed how it would proceed. While not firmly decided, it was suggested, and received general agreement, that the EC would work up its plans, suggestions, budgets, etc. and present to the Select Board for updates and approval (especially the expenditure of any funds) approximately every six weeks (depending on scheduling) presented by one or two members of the Committee.

In looking forward, Kate suggested and the rest of the Committee generally agreed that discussing the Planning Commission's Energy Goals as detailed in the recently completed Town Plan. The Committee was on board, and all were urged to review the Town Plan to be informed with its goals so that they could be discussed at the next meeting.

**Adjourn @ 7:15pm**