Town of Shaftsbury Energy Committee meeting

June 11, 2024 In person at Cole Hall and remotely via Zoom

1. Call to Order

Select Board chair Ms. Miller called the meeting to order at 6 p.m. Present were Select Board chair Naomi Miller and energy committee members Wayne Goodman, Andrea Bacchi, and Bill Christian.

2. Conflict of interest statement

No one reported a conflict of interest.

3. Review of committee mission and goals

Ms. Miller read the mission statement, to wit:

To make ongoing recommendations to the Select Board on matters related to the planning and implementation of policies designed to reduce energy use, to transition to renewable energy sources and production, and to provide the Town with strategies for climate resilience; and

To provide to the citizens of Shaftsbury education, consultation and connections to State and local resources with regard to energy conservation, household renewable energy electric generation systems, renewable- and low-energy heating and cooling systems, and other means for transitioning households away from fossil fuels.

She noted that in the near future the Town will be working on renovations to Cole Hall and creating a Town Green. She welcomed comments from the committee on these two items as well as any others they might be interested in.

4. Election of officers

Mr. Goodman nominated Andrea Bacchi to be chairperson of the committee. Mr. Christian seconded the motion, which passed 3-0-0. Mr. Christian nominated himself to be vice-chair of the committee. The group nominated him unanimously.

5. Establishment of regular meeting times

After discussion, it was agreed to meet on the first Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. Wayne Goodman so moved. Mr. Christian seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The next meeting will be held July 2, 6 p.m. Ms. Bacchi will post the agenda. Ms. Holley will set up the Zoom meeting.

6. Other business

Ms. Holley reassured Mr. Goodman that all documents relative to the Town Green and Cole Hall renovation will be placed on the website. Mr. Christian asked that all committees be made aware that the energy committee is interested in their activities and points of view. This would include the activities of the DPW, too, and activities such as replacing street lights. Ben Hulett, in the audience, declined to join the committee. Mr. Christian noted that Shaftsbury needs an official group. Ms. Bacchi announced that a MERP grant for \$4,000 was recently award to the Town. More information will be forthcoming. The group agreed to spend time in future discussing how to spend those funds.

7. Adjournment

Mr. Goodman moved to adjourn at 6:30 p.m. Mr. Christian seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.