

**MADISON ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
TOWN OF MADISON LIBRARY, CHICK ROOM  
MEETING MINUTES  
THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 2018**

**Members Present** - Noreen Downs, Co-Chair, Russ Lanoie, Bob King, Bruce Kennedy, Ken Eckhardt

**Members Absent or Excused**- Russ Dowd (excused), Adam Leiser (new member – excused). Sloane Jerrell (new member – excused)

**Others Present** – Tim Hughes, videographer; Shawn Bergeron (Madison Elem. buildings upgrade project lead)

**Where and When Posted** – Town Hall upper and lower level bulletin boards and Madison & Silver Lake Post Offices April 13, 2018

**Meeting Called to Order** – By co-chairman Noreen Downs at 7:10pm. Noting that Bob King will be arriving late.

**Approval of Agenda** – Motion made by Mr. Kennedy to approve the agenda, seconded by Mr. Lanoie. Motion passed 4-0

**Approval of February 15, 2018 minutes** - Motion by Mr. Kennedy to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Lanoie. Motion passed 4-0.

**Committee Membership** – Ms. Nordlund has asked to step off the committee; Adam Leiser and Sloane Jerrell are newly appointed. Mr. Leiser, Mr. Eckhardt and Ms. Jerrell are requested to see Mike Brooks to take the oath of office at town hall prior to the next meeting.

**Public Comment** – Co-Chair Ms. Downs recognized Sean Bergeron. Mr. Bergeron will provide an update on the elementary school building repairs and upgrades under new business.

**OLD BUSINESS** –

- **Town Buildings Lighting Upgrade** – Ms. Downs reported that EMC has completed the lighting upgrades at the town hall, fire station, library, highway garage and maintenance garage. The project was completed professionally and in accordance with the schedule. Carl Edin will provide the town a mini proposal for the lower level town hall and library; these two room did not receive lighting upgrades due to failure to pass the Smart Start rebate program threshold for hours of use. Ms. Downs will review the proposal and notify the BOS and the committee when it is received.

- Town hall weatherization – Ms. Downs reports this project is being held until mid-summer when funds will become available.
- Legislative update – Mr. Lanoie reports there are many energy related bills at state house. Join or inquire through NHSEA (NH Sustainable Energy Association) for the latest status.
- Solar PV project for town and school buildings – Ms. Downs reported that she and Mr. Dowd contacted ReVision Energy Nick Sampson (representative who came to the committee to discuss solar PV installation and PPA financing) to inquire about installing solar photovoltaic (PV) on town property for the purpose of generating electricity for the town and school buildings. Financing for the project would be through a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA). Mr. Sampson explained that ReVision Energy welcomes the opportunity to compile a proposal, but first wanted to know if the town would be able to provide 2 acres of property for a 400+kWh ground mount solar array.

Mr. Dowd, Mr. Lanoie, Ms. Marianne Jackson (Madison resident affiliated with valley energy committees) and Ms. Downs drafted a document to present to the Board of Selectmen (BOS) to ask this question. The document explained the PPA financing, and asked the BOS if they would consider identifying two acres on town property for the installation of a ground mounted solar array. The understanding that 2 acres could be allocated to the solar array would allow the Energy Advisory Committee to pursue requesting a specific proposal for the installation of the solar array to support electricity for the town and school buildings.

Mr. Dowd and Ms. Downs attended the April 24, 2018 BOS meeting to further discuss and request input on this project. The BOS were in favor of requesting a proposal with financing through a PPA and were of the opinion that the 2 acres would be accessible for such a project. They have asked Linda Shackford to investigate if there are any deeded restrictions on the town property that might be identified as suitable for the 2-acre solar array. The array is best if within 500' of the receiving metered building using at least 20% of the installed electric load – in this case the school. Crossing the creek, if required, might require special permitting (a site walk would be needed to narrow down the 2-acre location). The BOS would also like to approach other solar installing companies through a written Request for Qualification (RFQ). This would be preferable to the BOS so they can compare solar PV installation proposals, costs, and contracts.

The committee agreed that Ms. Downs, Mr. Dowd and Mr. Lanoie could proceed to draft the RFQ for the BOS approval and submission to several regional solar PV installers.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- Mr. Bergeron gave the committee an overview of the building work at the elementary school:
  - He has considered solar PV to provide electricity for the 3 buildings, however the roof does not have the capability to handle the weight load. Mr. Bergeron was complementary of this committee for moving forward to investigate solar PV for all town buildings and the school, and to save tax payer dollars.
  - Mr. Bergeron stated that he has found that there was poor construction in the school. Insulation, weatherization, and air exchange were very much lacking. Spray foam has been applied to seal up areas above the walls to the roof.
  - New air exchange units and air control systems are being evaluated
  - New Refrigeration will be installed in the kitchen
  - Mr. Bergeron is looking into the lighting upgrade through Eversource and the Smart Start program.

Ms. Downs suggested that perhaps she attend the May 7<sup>th</sup> school board meeting to be on hand for discussion of the solar PV project for the combined town and school buildings. Mr. Bergeron welcomed her to attend.

- Consideration of purchasing Electric Vehicle for transporting Madison residents in place of the Blue Loon bus. Mr. King reported that the Blue Loon bus is no longer running regular routes, but picking up and delivering residents door to door. He has expressed an interest to the BOS to start a committee to address the needs of the elderly and the community at large. Transportation will be a part of this discussion and anyone interested in participating with Mr. King are invited to contact him.

### **Next MEAC Meeting**

The next meeting will be Thursday, June 14, 2018 7pm at Town Hall. The committee agreed to meet on the second Thursday of the month instead of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday so as not to conflict with another town committee meeting starting at 5:30pm on those days.

### **Adjournment -**

Mr. Kennedy made a motion to adjourn at 8:15pm; seconded by Mr. Lanoie. Motion passed 4-0.

Minutes approved at the Thursday June 13, 2018 meeting with name spelling revision.

Respectfully submitted,  
Noreen Downs, Co-Chair