

St. Johnsbury Town Energy Committee

July 1, 2024

Members Present: Steve Isham, Pam Parker (Chair), Susan Parker, Ben Deede, Lynn Wurzburg

Guests: Robert Michael

1. Review June minutes

Minutes were passed

2. Update on town plan process

Pam asked how the energy committee could be involved effectively in the update on the town plan. Ben said there could be joint meeting with planning commission. Ben asked if the enhanced energy plan could exist as a separate document. Steve noted if the energy plan was changed it would have to be approved by the selectboard and NVDA. Lynn asked if we should update the plan.

Pam will talk to Ally Webster at NVDA about the guidelines for what we have to do—this is do we have to incorporate energy plan into the town plan or can we just have a link for the enhanced energy plan?

3. Geothermal update

Steve said there have been MOUS of organizations wanting to participate in the geothermal network from the town and St. Andrews. Jason Rodriguez can use that to find an owner for the network. It could be a municipal utility.

4. WindowDressers - Oct 17-24 - to-do list

Pam noted that we are the first community build in the Northeast Kingdom. The computerized sign up is live for volunteers. She said it would be great to sign up early to gain some momentum. Pam asked committee members and guests to forward the memo to a customer or a volunteer.

Lynn asked how many slots are left. Pam said a few people have pulled out of orders and there are about 75 slots left. Pam said she is still hoping to raise money for WindowDressers to cover the special rate where customers pay a reduced fee. She said it would be helpful if other churches or organizations could contribute to the special rate fund.

5. Priorities for action

The committee took a closer look at the priorities for action identified at the last meeting. Pam suggested looking into ways to publicize alternative opportunities for transportation such as RCT, carpooling, walking, and biking. Lynn suggested asking someone from RCT to come to the next meeting and share their needs and challenges as a way of better informing how we can help. Lynn agreed to follow up with that idea.

The next meeting is August 5 from 5pm to 7pm at the Welcome Center.