

6/21/21 Glover Energy Committee Meeting (in person at Town Hall)

Present: Jack Sumberg, Ann Creaven, Sara Gluckman, Mariel Hess, Heather Clark

Solar Array Project

Jack met via phone with lawyer, Sara Davies Coe, about the Solar Array net-metering agreement and lease with Norwich Solar. Then called Kevin and went over the lawyer's concerns. Ultimately Kevin agreed that as long as the Selectboard agrees to sign the lease option the work can proceed.

We need to find the boundary pins on the West Glover property and make sure we know where the boundaries are - make sure the solar project does not impinge on the neighbors. Last survey of the land was done in 1982.

Jack is planning to go to the next Glover Select Board meeting to report on his talk with the lawyer. Heather says she will attend as well.

Decommissioning concern: PUC does not make reference to anything under 150 kwh in terms of decommissioning responsibility. It is our understanding that the developer is supposed to take it down. We want to make sure this is spelled out in our lease agreement with Norwich Solar.

Window Dressers

Jack brings pile of Window Dressers rack cards for distribution.

As for the problem of sourcing pine for the frames, Jack learned there is a promising option to the usual solid pine- a process that uses finger joint blocks that are made with select pine, produced by a company in NY just west of Albany. The company is big and makes a lot of these. They can supply in any dimension we'd want in the quantity we'd need. Price is 10cents less than what we were paying. Quality is totally adequate for this project. And, the NY company would transport it to us.

If Window Dressers agrees to this option we are pretty sure to have wood for assembly workshops for this fall. However, there is still the problem of finding folks to do the labor in the cut-shop in Searsmont, Maine. Need is for a couple full-time employees who could work Aug - November. Hoping to be cutting 5 days a week instead of just 2 days per week as they have done in the past. Searsmont, Maine is where the cut shop is being set up.

An early workshop has already been scheduled for Thetford to make inserts for the school - hopefully to have them ready before school opens in the fall.

We agree to proceed on doing outreach for our Glover insert project for this year. Sara has been keeping a list of interested folks. Two folks have volunteered for the community build workshop.

Funding the project

We still have \$1000 left from Spark Grant that we got 2 years ago which allowed us to donate 25% of our total inserts to those in need.

Vermont Community Foundation is offering grants up to \$5000 for community improvement projects in the NEK. We consider the idea of using this grant to give one free insert to interested households in Glover/West Glover. The CF Grant application is due Aug. 9th. If our intention is to apply it to our fall insert project, we need to find out when the grants would be awarded.

School Solar Array

Heather encourages all of us to attend the next EMS Board Meeting when this will again be discussed. Heather will write a letter in support of schools going solar including some talking points such as cost savings and how it could serve as a way of educating kids about energy saving.

Next Meeting - July 5th at Glover Town Hall Basement

Respectfully submitted by Mariel Hess