

Starksboro Energy Committee

Monday April 7, 2025

12:00 noon – 1:00 pm

Virtual Teams Meeting

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1. Welcome to our new member, Adam Aguirre
  - a. Attendees
    - i. SEC
      1. Adam Aguirre, S. Starksboro
        - a. CLF attorney
      2. Jeff Dunham
      3. Rich Warren
      4. Megan Nedzinski
      5. Richard Faesy
    - ii. Others
      1. Susan Klieber, Friends of Jerusalem Schoolhouse
      2. Jolyon Larson, ACRPC
2. Public Comments
  - a. None
3. Approve Minutes from 3/3/25
  - a. Jeff moved
  - b. Richard seconded
  - c. Approved
4. Committee Membership
  - a. [Richard Faesy](#), Chair (2025 - 3 year term)
  - b. Jeff Dunham (2025)
  - c. Megan Nedzinski (2024 - 2 yr term)
  - d. Robyn King (2024 - 1 year term)
  - e. Richard Warren (2024 - 1 year term)
  - a.
  - b. Everyone is willing to renew their terms
  - c. Time is a challenge for Megan, but she is willing to stay on as long as other members are willing to work with a busy schedule at times, which we are.
  - d. We should make all of them three years, staggered terms. They are different terms because that is a holdover from when we started the Committee and have not changed them all to three-year staggered terms since, which the Select Board should do.
  - e. Ask Amanda if she can work with the Select Board to make these adjustments and confirm the renewals
5. Meeting twice a month
  - a. Rich suggested we meet more often with everything we have going on and a long agenda of things we don't get to
  - b. It would be better to have focused meetings for each building as we make our way through the MERP grant

- c. Less ambitious agenda would be helpful, as well
  - d. Just for a few months set up another day and time
  - e. Optional meeting for the Monday 4/21 at noon
    - i. Involve others
    - ii. Focus on Food Shelf
    - iii. May 6 vote on the J Schoolhouse, so schedule our after that. We can discuss at our next meeting on May 5 and find a date.
6. Town Plan and the Energy Plan
- a. Planning Commission Plans
    - i. Email from Robert Turner to Richard:
      - 1. The PC seemed to agree that the energy plan expires along with the town plan and felt they would task the SEC with the revisions. They are supportive of the SEC pursuing the grant with ACRPC.
  - b. EECBG 3.0 and Municipal Energy Planning Grant Participation
    - i. Ask Amanda to work with Jolyon and the Select Board to add Starksboro to the ACRPC grant
7. MERP Grant next steps
- a.  [Quotes for MERP](#)
  - b. Jerusalem Schoolhouse
    - i. Megan is coordinating with Division of Historic Preservation
      - 1. Greg Chisinski
      - 2. Meeting Friday 4/11 morning (9:00)
      - 3. Focused conversation with Megan and Susan on site, so better to limit attendees to just the two of them
      - 4. Megan and Susan will meet on site
    - ii. Insulation
      - 1. Foam insulation is not allowed in historic preservation
      - 2. Megan will talk to Greg about cellulose
      - 3. Try to avoid removing wainscoting if possible under the windows in order to blow in cellulose
        - a. Bristol will be removing theirs
    - iii. Focus will be on windows, what is allowed, replacements as an option
    - iv. Select Board liked roof RFP from J School as a model for RFPs
    - v. Studies have been done on asbestos, lead and posted on website
      - 1. Done in 2019
      - 2. We have the information we need already (lead and asbestos)
      - 3. Only the roof project has been done since then so no changes to the site
    - vi. Scope of work changes
      - 1. If we wish to change the scope of work from what was in the approved grant, BGS would need us to file a narrative of changes with supporting evidence, referencing planners
      - 2. BGS may need to visit the property to verify the changes
      - 3. Not uncomplicated, but need supporting evidence with new plan process

4. For the J Schoolhouse, let's see what happens with the town vote on funding the J Schoolhouse renovations on May 6 and if it passes then MERP funds could be redirected to a different scope
- c. Food Shelf
  - i. Proceed with site assessment for any hazards (e.g., lead, asbestos) if it hasn't already been done
    1. Jolyon will check with Amanda to see whether it's been tested before and if not, then SEC approves that it should be
  - ii. ACRPC is willing to help with the application
    1. Partner is Spantec to do the testing
  - iii. Scope of work
    1. Work we are doing may not trigger hazardous materials
    2. But we should know what's in our buildings
    3. Unclear on the timing for the tests
  - iv. Jolyon will reach out to Amanda to see whether tests have been done.
  - v. Meeting on 4/21 to focus on Food Shelf
    1. Richard to schedule
  - vi. ADA compliance, per Jeff's assessment
    1. Could remove the fence and create one ADA lot
    2. Already paved
    3. Need space and sign
    4. Striping would require paving, so may need to do paving if we want to stripe it, but wouldn't have to
    5. Anything we do is better and doesn't open another door of requirements
    6. 20% of grant for each building needs to be for ADA, so at least \$5500 should be budgeted for ADA
- d. Jolyon's role
  - i. Willing to put out RFP to contractors
  - ii. Bid committee assistance
  - iii. RPC has put together regulated building materials applications
    1. Lead
    2. Permits
    3. Worker safety
    4. Assessments
  - iv. Keep him in the loop and he is willing to help us with both projects
8. Ran out of time to cover the following items on the agenda:
  - a. ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager Town data entry
  - b. EV charger rate review
  - c. Pete's "Energy Navigator" Role
    - i. Next Steps
  - d. Other Town Buildings
    - i. Town Office
    - ii. Library
  - e. Robinson School updates on heat pump water heater efforts
  - f. Other business
9. Next meetings:

- a. 4/21/25 noon – Focus on Food Shelf
- b. 5/5/25 noon – next SEC meeting
- c. 5/6/25 – Jerusalem Schoolhouse town vote on renovations, then schedule a meeting to follow if the vote passes