

Nelson Town Buildings Committee

January 29, 2018

Attendees

- Dave U
- Dave B
- Earl
- Russ
- Lisa
- Sandy

Action Items

Meeting called to order at 6:00 PM

Minutes of December 11, 2017 reviewed, Motion to approve by Russ second by Sandy, all in favor.

Minutes

Solar

- Movie Time!
 - We watch several ReVision Energy videos, for fun.
 - [youtube.com/watch](https://www.youtube.com/watch)
- Question about how the new tariffs will effect the cost of projects
 - Our library panels were from a US company, but manufactured in Germany.
 - Panels are a relatively small part of the total cost of a system
- We have a baseline of costs for energy for town buildings.
 - docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1MkOIC2VbuAhqpngnuWefOyEwJLzBw3lh6OiVT9o9wiU/edit
 - Bill Newell is looking to get a rebate for us
 - ReVision is also reviewing this data to size a system
 - Edie will keep this data monthly going forward
 - We think the Library number is net of the solar production

- We expect to work with ReVision and Greg Blake over the summer to determine the budget for a system that provides power for the town
 - With a goal to present a proposal to the town in March 2019
 - The thinking currently is that we'll need a system six times larger than the Library solar system, but we will wait for confirmation from solar vendors
 - Power purchase agreement is an option, which would reduce the up-front cost substantially
- Discussion of sites
 - Turtle Hill is a possibility
 - Need to check with abutters
 - Terrace the hill and add ground-mount systems
 - We'll take a field trip when the weather is better
- What about batteries?
 - Something that would mean we could use the buildings when there is a power failure
 - Earl mentions super-capacitor
 - Dave B says it's better just to have a generator, economics of batteries are still terrible
 - Greg Blake is going to quote fuel cells for us
 - So we'll do grid-tied as a phase 1, and hope that longer term there will be storage solutions that are affordable

Town Hall Water

- There have been several successful water tests, but want to do one more round before saying that the water is potable.
- Planning to do bi-yearly tests going forward

Next Meeting

Tentatively April 2nd, pending re-appointment of the committee by the new Selectboard – all current members are willing to serve for the upcoming 2018–19 term