

Nelson Town Buildings Committee

August 12, 2019

Attendees

- Dave Upton
- Dave Birchenough
- Lisa Sieverts
- Andy Wilson
- Absent
 - Sandy Mackenzie
 - Earl Creasey

Action Item

- Lisa
 - Facebook event on I Love Nelson on the Facebook Page for September 14
 - Send the list of grant opportunities to the committee
- Andy
 - Ask Sarah if she would be interested in writing grants

Meeting called to order at 6:05 PM

Motion to approve the minutes of July 8, 2019 by Dave U, second by Dave B, all in favor

Recap of last week's public session with Conor Hill

- Only about 14 attendees, beyond the committee members
 - There was a mix of people pro and con "human attributed climate change," which is good
 - Dave B suggests that we concentrate on the door-to-door connections coming up in February
 - Can we put together a flyer for this Saturday
 - We don't have time
 - But we should work to have a flyer by the November public session
 - Need to do more "getting the word out" for the next event
- Beth Draper, an abutter of the potential solar field, asked about the location of the solar
 - Dave U met with Beth to show her the potential location

Financing the solar/heat pump project

- Edie and Dave looked for alternatives to bonding the project
- There is ~\$135,900 in capital reserver
 - Could fund the rest by taxes = ~30–60K
- Dave B has to leave
 - The formal meeting ended at 6:20 PM because there is no longer a quorum
- Informal discussssion continues
- An idea for financing the project
 - Put in as much solar in 2020 as we can afford
 - And enough infrastructure for everything
- But do the heat pumps one building at a time
 - We'd have to make sure that Eversource would compensate the town for all of the electricity being sent into the grid.
 - Because as long as we are using oil and propane, the Town isn't using nearly that much electricity
- Grants
 - Lisa is far behind on researching grants
 - And won't have time to do the research until mid-September at the earliest
 - Lisa will resend the list of grants
 - Dave U will make some phone calls
 - SWRP

Next Meeting

- Monday September 2 (Labor Day) 6 PM at the Town Offices
 - Lisa has realized she will probably be away in Washington, DC

Grants

1. New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission

Offers renewable energy rebates and grants through a competitive process for renewable energy projects for commercial and industrial entities. (Cheshire County won a grant from this program about 1.5 years ago to replace a boiler at Maplewood).

<http://puc.nh.gov/Sustainable%20Energy/RenewableEnergyRebates.html>
2. Public Service of New Hampshire Energy Rewards Program

Competitive basis electrical energy efficiency projects for industrial and commercial customers with 350kW demand or more (603) 634–3216 or gary.lacasse@nu.com

<http://www.psnh.com/SaveEnergyMoney/Large-Power/Energy-Rewards-Program.aspx>
3. TD Charitable Foundation

Private foundation with focus areas in community development, economic development, education, environment, energy, food banks, housing, human services, youth services

www.tdbank.com/community/grants.html or (207) 756–6947 or CharitableGiving@TD.com

4. EPA New England Healthy Communities Grant Program
Focus: Reduce environmental risks, protect and improve human health and improve the quality of life with projects that benefit communities at risk, areas needing community resilience, build capacity to solve health and environmental problems
Average award of about \$25,000
Competitive program, applications typically due in spring
<https://www3.epa.gov/region1/eco/uep/hcgp.html>
5. USDA Rural Energy for America
Funds may be used for renewable energy systems including biomass, geothermal, hydropower, hydrogen, wind and solar generation. Funds may also be used for energy efficiency improvements including efficiency heating, insulation, lighting, refrigeration units, doors and windows, electric, solar or gravity pumps, and switching from diesel to electric irrigation. Award amounts up to \$500,000; provides grant funding for 25% of the total project cost up to \$20,000 and guaranteed loan financing for 75% of the total project cost up to \$25 million
Target: agricultural producers and rural small businesses for renewable energy systems or to make energy efficiency improvements.
<http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rural-energy-america-program-renewable-energy-systems-energy-efficiency>
6. Clean Energy States Alliance, NH Public Utilities Commissioner Renewable Energy Grants
Provides funding and resources for Renewable energy projects in NH
Award amounts up to \$100,000
www.cesa.org
7. Eversource
<https://eversource.versaic.com/login>
Funding for activities that will make a positive difference for local residents. Priority is given to programs that focus on the health and well-being of youth and the promotion and advancement of clean energy and related technologies. Limit of 1 application per year.
Typically due in Fall
(800) 286-2000
8. Eversource Charitable Giving
Eversource awards grants to qualified non-profits in our service area, with a particular focus on the health and well-being of youth and the advancement and promotion of clean energy and related technologies
Typically due in Fall
<https://www.eversource.com/Content/nh/about/community/charitable-contributions-volunteerism>

OTHER INFORMATION SOURCES WITH POTENTIAL LEADS FOR FUNDING

Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy
<https://www.energy.gov/eere/funding/eere-funding-opportunities>

U.S. Department of Energy
<https://www.energy.gov/energy-economy/funding-financing>

NH Office of Energy and Planning
<http://www.nh.gov/oep/jobs-grants/grants/index.htm>