

NELSON TOWN BUILDINGS COMMITTEE

October 19, 2020

Attendees

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

Action Items

- Dave B
 - Ask Henry Herndon about low GWP ASHPs.

Meeting called to order at 6:00 PM

Minutes of September 28, 2020 are approved as sent via email, motion by Dave U second by Sandy, all in favor

Completed Action Items

- Lisa
 - Connect Dave U with Mary Ewell or someone else at Monadnock Sustainability, about how to find ASHPs with better refrigerants
 - Done, but this was a dead end
- Sandy
 - Try to contact Morgan Urquia again
 - Morgan has moved to Alaska
 - Sandy will call all the local contractors, looking for a ASHP using a refrigerant with GWP (global warming potential) that is much lower than A410A.
 - Sandy talked to Adrian Pinney, who knows of a mini-split company that uses the better refrigerant. He will look into it further.

- Space Pak
 - spacepak.com/hydronic-heating-and-cooling
- Hill Phoenix
 - hillphoenix.com
- Sandy called a friend in Denmark who says the new ASHPs are for sale there and he is willing to buy it and ship it to us (Town would reimburse).
 - Dave B reports that the Harris center did something similar in their remodel, ordering from Europe. This was for the pellet boiler. And a dealer in Lempster, NH, agreed to pick up the product line, too.
- Dave U
 - Contact Dana Nute regarding refrigerants and ASHPs
 - Dave U contacted Dana Nute, who didn't have a lot of additional information. He contacted the Mitsubishi rep, who says R-410A is ok in comparison to the amount of carbon we will save with the ASHPs and solar.
 - Dave U has done some calculations, if we save 5 tons of CO2, we could lose a pound of R410A and still be ahead.
 - Dave B asks how often do the heat pumps leak? Dave U reports that Gary Jackson says that they do not leak, but we are skeptical.
 - Bring up town hall floor maintenance at Selectboard
 - From the minutes: Following a brief discussion, David made a motion to postpone resurfacing the Town Hall Floor this year. He sited lack of funding in the budget, no substantial use since March 2020, as well as scheduling such a project would limit the use by Town Government Boards as this is the only location for these Boards to meet and maintain social distancing.

Air Source Heat Pumps

- Unless we are able to find low-GWP refrigerants, we will not move forward with a warrant article or purchase of ASHPs this year.

Solar Update

- Dave U has been asking Greg Blake when he will be starting the solar project. Greg called today, there is a challenge in getting the pipe for pilings, but now planning to start work this week.
- Dave U will let us know when there are key moments in the construction so we can view it.

Other Updates

- Sandy is attending the Keene Community Energy event tomorrow.
 - Dave B was on a panel recently about electric vehicles, supported by the org that Henry Herndon works for.
- Town has purchased ionizers for the buildings, waiting on parts to get them installed.
 - The plan is that this will be reimbursed by a grant from the state

Next Meeting

- We are going to continue to do research on low-GWP air source heat pumps and will report by email. A future meeting will be scheduled on an as needed basis.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:32 PM, motion by Sandy, second by Dave B, all in favor
