

Jim Nourse called the meeting to order at 7:33 pm. Committee access was via Zoom or via an associated phone number that had been properly warned.

1. Jim announced that this telephonic meeting complies with the Governor's Order #12.
2. **Members present:** Jim Nourse, Mark Bolinger, Matt Brown, Dan O'Hara.
3. **Discussed the minutes of our September 13, 2021 meeting.** Jim moved for approval and Mark seconded, but Matt and Dan abstained, as they were not at the last meeting. We postponed approving these minutes and will try again at next month's meeting.
4. **Membership:** Scott has resigned from the Energy Committee, so we now have two vacancies. Dina will send a notice to the listserv seeking new members, and if we know anyone who might be a good candidate, we should let Jim know.
5. **Fire Station PV system:** Jim summarized his conversation with the potential donor who is interested in gifting money to put PV on the new firehouse. The donor requested that the Committee raise the first \$20,000, and if we are successful, the donor will contribute the rest. Based on two indicative quotes from PV installers received to date, we expect this PV system to cost anywhere from \$65,000 to \$78,000. The Town would own the system; the donors would gift the money to the Town and have no ownership stake in the system.

We discussed the Town's "Gift and Grant Policy," which Jim had circulated prior to the meeting. Two clauses of note include (1) the need to hold a public hearing in order to accept gifts over \$5,000 and (2) the need to obligate gifted funds in the same fiscal year in which they are received. Jim will check on a few things, including:

- Does the potential donor wish to remain anonymous or be acknowledged throughout this process?
- Does the Town's fiscal year follow the calendar year, or some other schedule?
- Does the potential donor want or need to donate funding in calendar year 2021, or would 2022 work just as well?
- If the entire cost of the system is funded by donors, will we need to bring this project before Town Meeting?

Depending on the answers to these (and other?) questions, we will decide at our next meeting how best to proceed (in terms of fundraising, going out to bid, etc.).

6. **Sustainable Lyme:** Jim plans to launch the website tomorrow and invite people to express interest.
7. **Adjournment:** Dan moved; Matt seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 8:16 pm.

Our next meeting as an official committee will be Monday, November 8, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Bolinger, Secretary