

Lyme Energy Committee Meeting  
May 11, 2026; 6:00 p.m.  
Approved Minutes

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. All members were present except for Scott Barthold and Matt Brown. Our new Select Board Liaison, Michael Hinsley, attended.
2. Mike Novello moved to approve minutes from our March 9<sup>th</sup> meeting, and Richard seconded. Minutes approved.
3. Library Heat Pump: Jim relayed that Dina has signed the rebate form for the library heat pump, bringing that project to a close.
4. School PV Array: Jim noted that Jim Komarmi (school board) says that he hasn't heard from ReVision. Brett says he will look into it. Michael Hinsley asked whether it makes sense to replace and expand the system rather than just replace the inverter. Discussion ensued. There was general consensus that replacing/expanding involved too much of a capital outlay, whereas replacing the inverter will hopefully be a low-cost solution (TBD).
5. Jim attended the Select Board meeting on April 14 to discuss the Energy Committee's ability to "lobby" for certain bills under consideration in the NH legislature. The Select Board does not think a Town committee should be advocating for any policy with which any significant segment of the Town might disagree unless the Town has explicitly authorized it to do so. They prefer us to submit written testimony for their review prior to submission to the State. The Select Board does feel that these action items, which are challenging to do as an official committee of the Town, pose no problem whatsoever when done by Committee members, individually or jointly, in their individual capacities.
6. The Select Board has a list of upcoming/needed "capital purchases" and Jim is trying to get a copy of that from Dina to see whether there are any that the Committee should weigh in on (e.g., to advocate for more efficient and/or sustainable alternatives).
7. Sarah Brock from Clean Energy New Hampshire (CENH) attended to present how CENH "circuit riders" can help towns like Lyme. CENH has 4 regionally based circuit riders. The Upper Valley does not have a dedicated circuit rider at the moment, but Sarah is based in Concord and fills the gaps. Sarah provided and walked us through handouts that included information gleaned from the cumulative experience of the Circuit Rider team: >350 projects in 140 communities.
8. Jim asked the Committee to review Sarah's handout prior to next meeting and come ready to talk about any ideas generated by seeing what other communities across NH are doing.

9. There was discussion about Lyme's solar zoning ordinance. Sarah had reviewed it in advance of the meeting, and thought it was generally good, but she also said that she could provide a few specific comments after the meeting if we were interested.
10. As a bit of a tangent, Michael Hinsley asked Sarah why NH would want to leave ISO-NE. Brief discussion ensued; the general sense seemed to be that this would be a bad idea, and that the effort in Concord to study this question is not very serious.
11. With respect to fundraising vehicles (one of the topics of Sarah's handouts), Michael Hinsley also raised the issue of Capital Reserves Funds and voiced concern that Lyme is not funneling enough money into certain of these funds, given upcoming needs.

Mike Novello moved to adjourn at 7:22, and Michael Hinsley seconded.