**FRANCONIA ENERGY COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES**

**April 12, 2016; 4:30 pm**

In attendance: Kim C, Karen F, Fitz, Eric M

News Items:

* Mt. Washington Green Builders conference has discounts for attendance available. Maybe Bob and Chip might like to go.
* The higher net metering cap to 100,000kW has passed.
* RGGI fund increase is in process.
* Eric toured the town hall with the Select Board and many deficiencies were apparent: gap in emergency door, weather stripping in front door coming off, big windows beyond improvement. In addition, water in the parking lot drains down into the cellar. A major planning effort needs to happen.

Continuing Items:

* Bob is still interested in pursuing an efficiency rating for real estate.
* Streetlights: Dave met with Corey and got an approximate price for replacing lights with LED (about $300+). We discussed Franklin’s recent project to convert 500 streetlights to LED with financing through the NHCDFA (debt service designed to be cash flow positive in first year). Karen will call a few performance contractors to explore their interest in a Franconia project. Fitz will call Sugar Hill to ask if they are interested in joining our effort. Kim will check with John Monahan about the plan to turn off some of Franconia’s lights. Fitz suggested a field trip in Franconia to see which lights are targeted for turning off and to gauge the impact. If we decide to proceed with the turn-off, we should put a notice in the next tax bill. Fitz also suggested that Eversource come up to meet with us.
* Safety Services building electricity – Eric spoke to Allen about this and he responded defensively. We decided to wait for a few more months of electricity usage to analyze better the size of the problem.
* Water Department – accepted Chip’s proposal to insulate the building. Victory!
* Solarize Campaign is making progress. (Fitz: what is the current kW commitment?)

Other news:

* Town of Lancaster voted to put a solar array on an old capped dump.
* Group Net Metering requires a host which is paid for the excess electricity and charged for a shortfall. The host administers the arrangement for the others in the group.
* Lafayette Elementary School reported at the annual meeting that the rubber roof needs replacing. The timing might be right to propose solar. We should gather a few years of electricity usage and estimate the potential savings.
* We discussed what other projects might be included in a possible CDFA financing: highway garage doors, town hall windows…. Then we decided that we should keep it restricted to the streetlights which would be an easier sell to voters.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30.