

Minutes MEC Meeting March 25, 2014

Present – Richard Adams, Chris Mason, Sally Pick, Tim Van Egmond.

1. Minutes of 3/11/14 approved, 3 in favor, one abstained.
2. Winserts for Town Hall and Library: Sally Pick reported that Walter told her we would need to submit an estimate of energy savings in order to include the cost in the Green Communities Grant. Chris said he could help with that. Deadline is April 18.

The Montague Center Library would be difficult for winserts – they need access to blinds.

3. Carnegie Library – Chris said he and Jason went through the Library to consider replacing electric heaters in downstairs offices (thermostat-controlled wall-mounted heaters). Force air from furnace wasn't enough. Also looked at where ducts went, and programmable thermostat. Programming could be improved with new thermostat that would allow setback on Sundays.

- Also found thermostat currently set at 72 degrees in day and same at night.
- Windows – measured windows behind stacks, only two of them ever opened. Recommends putting in winserts for all of them, two could be taken down and stored in warm weather.
- Downstairs two fireplace flues, one he could get to was open and he closed it, needs tightening.
- Got measurements for all upstairs windows, which weren't secure. We could weatherstrip them.
- Jason pointed out manual ventilation – stack on top, grill inside with chain to pull shut or let open
- Basement windows all have storms – people complain they feel drafts, but this may be because of large amount of air leakage elsewhere.
- Furnace turned up well before working hours, building cools down a great deal and time needed to bring temperature back up. Jason believes the capacity of the furnace is slightly too small for the building.

Possible solutions:

- Seal the flues, secure the loose windows (volunteer work).
- Include winserts in Green Communities grant.
- Manual ventilation should have sensor (and possibly humidistat), automatic system that regulates opening and closing vent.
- Air source dual split heat pump to replace electric resistance heat in basement. Might be able to close off furnace heat to basement, allowing furnace to deliver more heat to upstairs. With air sealing, might improve setback and improve time to bring upstairs to temperature. Include in Green Communities Grant. Richard will contact Sandri about getting specs for this, and check with Walter.
- Replace furnace with high-efficiency gas boiler, use hydronic coil, continue to use blower.
- Convert from hot air to hydronic delivery system. Would make zones possible.
- Weatherstrip interior doors into library.

4. Brief discussion of Shea Theater roof – D.P.W. Just wants to patch roof leaks, could be short-sighted. Chris will check with Frank if he can come up with funds for roofing, cost of new insulation could be included in Gr. Cmmnties Grant.

5. Richard reported on contact with Paul Dunphy at Rep. Kulik's Office re: gas pipeline. Company hasn't filed for permits yet, there will be more information when they do. Sally had printout from

Kinder Morgan of their projections.

6. FRTA routes – Chris read letter from Jeff Singleton. There will be a comprehensive service assessment. Also letter from Selectboard regarding planning process.

Chris will touch base with Select board about MEC's desire to be included in transportation discussion. Informing us when there are meetings. How best we can help.

Agenda for next meeting:

Gas pipeline – identify possible issues of discussion.