

**Energy Committee Meeting**  
**March 29, 2011**  
**5:30pm – WSCR**  
**Minutes taken by Nora E. McGrath**

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**In Attendance:** Sid Lindsley, Richard Knowlton, Brian Robinson, Martin Cates, Roberta Smith, Des Fitzgerald.

**Absent:** Leonard Lookner, Peter Kalajian, Janis Gilley, Bennett Bricker.

1) **Review and approve minutes from Dec., Jan., and Feb. 2011 Meetings:**

These minutes were sent to Janice Esancy and copies were not available at this meeting time. All unapproved minutes should be voted on at the 2 May 2011 meeting.

2) **Non-agenda Items:**

A report on the E.C. for the year is due for the Town Report.

Rockland went ahead with PACE Program and public forum being held 30 March with Efficiency Maine and Dana Fischer. Info. to be brought forward by Brian Robinson for next meeting to discuss passing it onto the Select Board.

Sid Lindsley brought up the lack of regular attendance by regular members of the E.C.

Des said, as chair, he would contact people to find out what's happening.

3) **Review and recommendation re: Cordjia's Retro-Commissioning on Opera House:**

\$20 thousand dollars worth of estimated cost (without the air conditioning assessment) will be split by the town and Efficiency Maine, with each party paying \$10 thousand a piece. It was estimated that the return of the \$10 thousand payback would be realized in approximately 18 months. It was noted that there is a \$7 thousand payback annually by doing this project.. There was much discussion regarding budget and how to pay for it, with Roberta saying the money is there.

It was discussed that Dave Morrison and Brian Robinson will get together to do an assessment with the infrared camera of the Opera House to check the windows.

Sid Lindsley made a motion to recommend Cordjia's plan to the Select Board.

Richard Knowlton seconded this. **The motion passed 4-0.**

4) **Update on Municipal Solar Project:**

Richard Knowlton reported that Bill Behrens was unavailable. With the waste water plant building out of the running, is there a "plan B"? Looking into the public works building is plan B. Sid Lindsley mentioned again, building a frame or putting it on the ground, which could be "plan C". This item will be on the next agenda.

5) **Update on Seabright Hydro Improvements:**

Ross Parker reports things are going very well. Mechanical retro-fit is going very well. The new engine is within budget and the electrical work should be completed by the end of April. Turbine 1 has been running continuously since 1 December 2010. The new engine will run quieter than the old one. It is predicted that in a 12 month period there will be 3 to 4 months when neither turbine will be running, for 3 to 4 months turbine 2 (the new quieter one) will run by itself, and for 3 to 4 months both turbines will run together all hinging on the seasonal flow.

Early reports show that the turbine now running has produced approx. 1280 kilowatt hours a day since 1 January 2011, or 115 thousand kilowatt hours of electrical generation.

In the best years, Joe only got a bit over 300 thousand kilowatt hours of generation. So, for only 3 months using 1 turbine the town's return is better, due to the upgrades that have already taken place.

When turbine 2 is up and running they will put together the numbers and get the word out to the press. Ross P. is still looking into automation and remote control, and will assess that in the future. Ross P. is leery of putting together an inexpensive plan to add to the more expensive pieces of machinery already in place. More discussion will take place on this.

6) **Update on Street Light Audit:**

Peter Kalajian is heading this audit and should report next time he attends.

7) **Next Meeting:** Monday 2 May 2011 5:30 pm – WSCR

**Adjourn**