

Rye Energy Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 2, 2012
6:30-8:00 PM, Rye Library

Present: Lucy Neiman, Michele Sopher, Danna Truslow, Susan Anderson

Absent: All present

Also present: Deb Hayden, Tom Archibald, Grace Peirce

Minutes from September 4, 2012 meeting were accepted.

Tracy Ritzo's resignation from the Rye Energy Committee was regretfully accepted. We will miss her input at our meetings as well as all the work she has done for this committee.

Grace Peirce is a website manager who came to help us improve our website. We would like to have our website show three areas in keeping with our charge of reducing Rye's carbon footprint: municipal, residential and local foods. As Grace went over our present site, she commented that everyone needs their own sign-in so that we can all be administrators of the site. She requested that we make an outline of what we would like the contents of our site to be, e.g. links at the top of the page, and an active events calendar directly connected to our site. When we send her an outline, she will be able to give us an estimate of what this will cost. We plan to have her back to meet with us at our December 4, 2012 meeting, giving us time to research the information she gave us, e.g. examples of website pages to look at as well as studiopress.com for examples of layouts. Member of the committee will send their ideas to Susan who will send them to Grace.

Summer Farmers' Markets – Our last farmers' market was September 26. This year we had fewer vendors than in past years, but more vegetable farmers. Michele commented that she came to the market one day and was not able to find the things she had come for (peaches from Applecrest, who had cancelled because of the weather) and bread from the bakers, who, at the end of the summer are actually only two bakers as the others returned to work. Although we agreed that it does not help our market for people to come and not find what they had come for, neither of these things were in our control as far as improving for next year. We are weather-dependent and a number of our vendors work in schools and return to work before the summer is over. Perhaps we should consider ending the market when school starts, but that would mean giving up the apple and squash season. The RFM committee will be discussing these issues.

The RFM held a Farmhouse Dinner as a benefit for the Goss Farm. The dinner, prepared and presented by the RFM and friends, received rave reviews and raised \$3100. for the Goss Farm.

“Stay Warm – Save Money” – The posters look great and will be placed at a number of places around town as well as sent out in emails and in the Rye Eats Local Newsletter. The event is planned for Saturday, October 20. We will meet for a brief presentation at the Rye Library and Andy has procured a van and driver for those in attendance who would like to visit the homes who have had work done through the PSNH/Home Performance with Energy Star Program. Michele is gathering information from the home owners and putting together a brochure for the presentation.

Master Energy Plan Chapter – The Energy Plan chapter has been accepted by the Long Range Planning Board and is in their hands.

NEGF Grant – We need to finish our expenditures for this year to have information necessary to complete next year’s grant. Susan will get expenditures and receipts to Danna.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 PM.

Next meeting, Tuesday, November 6, 2012, 6:30-8:00 PM, Rye Public Library

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