

Craftsbury ARPA Group Meeting Minutes 4/20/2022

Attending: Lise Erickson, Chair, Gina Campoli, Rudy Chase, Stark Biddle, Heidi Krantz, Phil Lovely

1. Reviewed and approved minutes of 4/6/2022 meeting. Reviewed agenda for this evening.
2. Select Board update: Lise attended the 4/19/2022 meeting last evening. She updated the board and asked the group's questions: the board is setting a date for a meeting next week to address allocations (most likely April 26) and amount available from ARPA monies. \$10,000 has been spent on bonuses to town staff. Re: Microgrid project, Gina stated that HED's chief is not in favor of the project and that it is dead according to members of the Energy Committee. Rudy congratulated Lise for her work with the Select Board last night.
3. ARPA Reporting requirements: Michelle Warren will be the primary person reporting for the 4/30/2022 Annual Report. She is the logical person for this task. The report needs to be done on schedule as it is the only time the town can check Article 6: Covid losses with standard deduction of \$10,000,000 without itemizing. The committee extended thanks to Michelle Warren for her managing of this project.

4.a Project Selection Criteria Sub Committee: Lise noted that Annie McLean/VLCT stated that Craftsbury's ARPA Committee "is far ahead of the work of any other town in the region." Re: testing criteria for selection, Stark suggested the group role play a project pitch using the group and score sheet. Project Selection Criteria was discussed: concern that criteria were too vague, need to be more objective (Gina). The criteria need to enable applicants to clearly see what is being measured (Heidi). Starks' idea of modeling work to test run criteria was endorsed by Rudy.

4.b Communication Sub Committee: Heidi discussed this group's meeting outcome. The criteria for communicating to the town needs to be clear and transparent. Using the outline and timeline developed by the Sub Committee, she laid out a variety of ways to engage the community and both build and sustain interest in the grant over time. The Select Board expects the ARPA Group to survey the community to garner interest.

Agenda items for next meeting include: Review response from Select Board with their list of projects they are interested in; discuss next steps in communicating with town.

Next Meeting set for May 4, 2022 at 6pm at the Town Hall.

Submitted by Phil Lovely