

Stowe Selectboard Stowe Energy Committee

Mission

The Stowe Energy Committee (SEC) works with the Town, its residents and businesses to help reduce energy use, save money and protect the environment.

Purpose

Pursuant to the enhanced Stowe Town Energy Plan, adopted in 2018 and certified in 2019, the Stowe Energy Committee (the “SEC”) shall make recommendations on an advisory basis to the Selectboard, the Planning Commission, Conservation Commission and the Town Manager regarding Town policy on energy-related matters. The SEC works with residents, businesses, second homeowners and visitors and the Town to promote energy education and awareness, reduce energy consumption, improve the efficiency of energy used, promote renewable energy generation, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions on both an absolute and per capita basis.

The Committee identifies opportunities and makes recommendations to the appropriate Town officials and committees regarding energy conservation and efficiency, non-fossil energy sources and pollution reduction that address the environmental and fiscal benefits to the Town’s government, residents and businesses.

The Committee educates the citizens and property owners of the Town about energy conservation, alternative energy sources and other sustainability measures, and increases public awareness of energy issues and builds public support for energy efficiency and sustainable energy policies. It devises and implements programs in support of those measures with the assistance of other volunteers.

Make-up

The Committee will be comprised of seven members appointed by the Selectboard. Appointees to the Energy Committee shall normally serve a term not to exceed three years, provided, however, that persons appointed to fill a vacancy shall serve out the remainder of the term. Appointees shall serve at the will and pleasure of the Selectboard and may be removed at any time upon written notice. One of the positions shall be reserved for a student at Stowe High School, appointed annually for the school year. The Selectboard may appoint an additional Student Representative as a non-voting member, appointed on an annual basis. In accordance with the Stowe Town Charter, the Town Manager is an ex-officio member of all standing committees and shall have the right to attend and participate in all meetings but may not vote.

Meetings

The Energy Committee will meet on a monthly basis. All meetings are subject to the Vermont Open Meeting Law. As such, the meetings shall be warned, open to the public and press, and minutes shall be taken. Copies of all minutes shall be provided to the Manager’s Executive Assistant or his/her designee for distribution to the Stowe Selectboard or others that may request them.

Staffing

The Town Manager or his/her designee shall provide staff support.

Budget

The Energy Committee will use funds allocated each year in the town budget to fulfill its charge. All spending shall be done through the municipal staff assigned in accordance with the Stowe's Purchasing Policy.

Grants

The Town Manager shall have the authority to approve the submission of any grant that does not require a financial match (other than staff time) or one that requires a financial match, but the project and match were included in an approved operating or capital budget. Advance approval by the Selectboard shall be required of any grant request in advance of its submission that requires a financial match for a project or match that was not included in an approved operating or capital budget.

Adopted 2/24/2020 // Rev. 4/11/2022 // Rev. 4/24/2024 // Rev. 9/11/2024