

## **Stowe Energy Committee**

### **Minutes – April 22, 2021**

**Present:** Catherine Crawley, Liz Soper, Marina Meerburg, Scott Weathers, Rick Weinstein

**Absent:** Cap Chenowith, Sarah Evans and Tom Jackman

With Sarah absent Liz agreed to take minutes.

Marina made a motion to approve minutes from March meeting. Rick seconded. Minutes were approved.

### **E-Bike Subcommittee Update:**

Stowe Reporter Story – Scott authored on E-bike campaign and green lawn care.

Subcommittee is Scott, Cap and Catherine. E-bikes will be in Stowe June 21-July 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Catherine met with Sandy to get more details. Scott will be responsible for registration details. Local motion will help with marketing material – including press release. One month prior to us receiving bikes, Local Motion will set up a reservation system for us. Decided to do 2-day loans to maximize rentals. We will get two bikes.

Will also be working with local stores to do two weekends of demo days. June 26 and July 10<sup>th</sup>. People will be able to not only take out our bikes but demo other electric bikes from stores. We will help promote demo days as well as staff to help market program.

Need to determine who will be administering these demo days. SEC or stores? We also need to be clear about any potential costs associated with demo days. Need more information from Cap.

### **E-Lawn Care Campaign:**

The reporter story included information on e-lawn care. Liz mentioned that there was also a letter to the editor from Karen Atkins on electric lawn care.

Hyde Park Energy Committee, Denise Greene – Hyde Park Energy Committee recently presented suggested lawn alternatives to the Selectboard which were approved. They are launching program soon and wanted to know if we were interested in collaborating. Working with Mow Electric. Hyde Park EC meets every 4<sup>th</sup> Monday. Marina said she would try and attend to find out more information. Would be good to explore with Hyde Park what their proposal is so we can think about similar proposal to Selectboard prior to them making 2022 budget decisions.

Need to get more information on Electric Lawn mowers and cost. Recently friend of Liz bought mower from Stowe Hardware and did not realize it didn't come with battery and charger. Neither did Stowe Hardware.

Considering May article on “No Mow May” – possibly collaborate with Hyde Park? Liz will work with Catherine on this.

**Other Business:**

School Updates: Sarah not present so no update

Marina let folks know that Burlington has banned gas powered leaf blowers. Something we may want to consider? Group agreed that we want to move slow and make suggested changes vs. outright ban. Focus on positive changes to lawn care vs. restrictions.

Marina also indicated support to help with e-bike program if needed.

Liz wondered if it was possible to do an in-person "outdoor" meeting soon. Would need to still offer on Zoom for public. Need to ask Tom.

Meeting closed at 6:30 p.m.