**Marlborough Energy Committee**

**January 18, 2024**

Present: Trent Boehmler, Ted Mead, Chana Robbins, Marge Shepardson

1. Marge reported on work the town has done to follow up on committee recommendations for the town hall basement, to dry it out and make it more air-tight. They have gotten the sump pump working and plan to rebuild the bulkhead door.

Ted will talk with Craig Cashman, Highway Dept., for an update on the sump pump.

1. The committee talked again about a program to do simple energy audits for homes in town with the goal of making it easier for homeowners to get started, then refer them to NH Saves to get the needed work done. Marge and Trent attended a Board of Selectmen meeting a few weeks ago to talk about this program and they had some questions, particularly about possible liability.

Marge talked to John Stevens in Dunbarton to ask how they structured their program and find out if it has been successful. John said they developed a program they call “Neighbors Warming Neighbors” back in 2010 and since then have done 44 homes. They get the word out on the town website and other places, homeowners invite them in to evaluate their house, then the volunteer auditors send the homeowner a report that they can take to NH Saves or their favorite contractor to get work done.

To address the BOS concerns, our committee suggested sending two people at a time to do the audit, and possibly have the homeowner sign a waiver. Ted offered to let us use his infrared camera to start with so we wouldn’t have to buy one.

Next steps:

1. Ted will find out if NH Saves has a list of workers that they recommend. Marge will talk to John Kondos of the Monadnock Sustainability Hub to ask the same question.
2. Next week Marge and Trent will go to the BOS meeting and discuss our progress.
3. In two weeks Ted and Marge will see what information they have and will draft an article about the program to put in the Marlborough Bulletin.