**Marlborough Energy Committee**

**11/17/23**

Present: Trent Boehmler, Jerry Burns, Ted Mead, Marge Shepardson

IRA grants (Inflation Reduction Act)

1. Jerry has been learning about energy opportunities through the Mondadnock Energy Hub. He is writing an article for the Shopper that could be used, perhaps with adaptations, in the Marlborough Bulletin.
2. There are two models that other towns have used. One model is like what Cornish and Plainsfield are doing – let people know about NH Saves which offers a $100 audit that gets reimbursed if you have work done, and some grant money (which the homeowner matches) for weatherization work.

The second model is what Dunbarton is doing – Do a “Neighbors Warming Neighbors” campaign, which is a Button Up project for Low and Middle Income (LMI) households. They used a grant to buy an infrared camera for the trained volunteers to use on a walk-through audit.

If we wrote about Workforce Development it would help with the grant. We could perhaps piggyback on LIHEAP. Is the county doing this? Southwest Community Services might know. Jerry will contact Dunbarton for more information.

Margaret Dillon might have a camera we could use. Ted will ask her about training us to do an audit.

Then Marge will order one camera from the 2023 budget.

1. Other ideas – clean the town furnaces

 Cover windows with plastic like Window Dressers

ECA community solar

Ted: we use about 200,000 kWh/yr. for town buildings (not including the school).

Bob Hayden is talking to 6 solar companies including ECA, which is his favorite because it offers the highest percentage. A large project would need 30-60 acres and a 3-phase power line. It would take about 1.5 – 2 years to build and would produce about 25 years of power.

**Next meeting: 12/7 at 4:30**