Warwick Buildings & Energy Committee Annual Report for FY 2011

The purpose of the Warwick Buildings and Energy Committee is to assess town buildings and maintenance needs, research options for the select board and Warwick citizens to encourage efficient energy consumption and optimal maintenance of town properties, and encourage Warwick townspeople's own efforts in renewable energy production and carbon footprint reduction.

The committee was established by the Selectboard on December 4, 2006, as an ad hoc Town Buildings Committee. In May of '07 it began to meet as the Buildings and Energy Committee. The Selectboard voted on June 30, 2008, to make it an official town committee with six members appointed for staggered three-year terms. The committee still meets happily once a month.

Members, as of the end of FY 2011 are:

Janice Kurkoski '14 – chairDan Dibble'13Les Goodman'12Steve Kurkoski '14– scribeJim Toth '13Jack Cadwell'12

Barbara Walker - liaison to the school

Warwick Town Hall:

During the summer the roof was replaced with Ice & Snow shield under new 50-year shingles. The east chimney was dismantled down to the attic floor and the hole in the roof was sealed.

In the fall new storm windows were installed on the remaining windows. Window sash restoration commenced on the dining-hall windows. In early winter, 6 solar electric panels totaling 1.2kW were installed on the south roof using Warwick's Clean Energy Choice funds and Commonwealth Solar rebates; the resultant electricity is fed into the grid through micro-inverters on each panel. Volunteer labor was provided by Jason Ring, Les Goodman, and Steve & Janice Kurkoski. Students at the Franklin County Technical School installed an on-demand water heater to serve the bathrooms and utility sink. The 30-gallon water heater was moved to serve the kitchen (in place of the 80-gallon Sepco heater, which has a minor valve leak). Tech School students also installed a receptacle for an air conditioner in the dining hall, a generator transfer switch, and a message cabinet for posting legally required notices.

Warwick Community School:

Temperature data loggers were deployed here for several weeks.

In January a thorough energy audit was performed by Keith Abbott and a report generated prioritizing needed capital improvements. Later Bill Lyman sealed off the many holes in the attic left by the sprinkler repair crew.

Highway Dept:

In May, at the request of Tim Kilhart, the committee made a site visit in order to better understand the physical characteristics and heating loads of both buildings. The committee moved to pursue procuring the services of an energy consultant/engineer to make recommendations for improvements.

Fire Dept:

In May, the Firemen's Association Building Committee met with us to discuss the status of the new safety building. The rough drafts had been submitted to 3 architectural firms for estimates to draw up plans. At that time, it was thought that building funds would come from Association seed money, grants, and town meeting funds, that the building would be town owned and operated, and that our committee would look into additional funding.

Library:

Nancy Hickler said that it was likely the trustees would approve of interior winserts (2-layer interior storms), as long as they were not "obtrusive". Project date TBD.

Historical Society:

The committee toured the Historical Society building and made the following recommendations:

- Determine the target temperature, and light and humidity levels. Track the current conditions.
- Climate-control one room or storage compartment for sensitive items.
- Provide proper drainage at both the up-hill and downhill foundations.
- Seal the duct passageways between the basement and upper floors.

Needs to be addressed:

Warwick Community School - make energy-saving capital improvements and re-roof.

Fire station, Police station, and Library - air sealing, additional insulation (especially in attics and library basement), and winserts.

Highway Dept. - wall insulation and heating-system assessments.

We continue to track oil and electric consumption using the MASS Energy Insight on-line program. See the charts below.



