

To All Members of The Country Squires

Minutes for the Meeting of August 10th, 2023

- Garry Keane, President called the meeting to Order at Noon. Garry commented on his ongoing email difficulties, "Update on issues with the email invitations – everyone needs to add me (my email address "gpkeane@comcast.net") to their email address book – some who have not their domains (gmail, comcast, tds, me, Hotmail, yahoo, buffalo, etc) see my emails with multiple people as "spam" and they were sending a message back to the Comcast servers indicating they were receiving a "spam" email so Comcast was preventing any/all email addresses past that email address from being sent. Hope this has been addressed now. Fingers crossed".
- Garry also stated that we have volunteers for The Words of Inspiration for the September and October meetings and volunteers for subsequent meetings are welcome to step forward

Words of Inspiration by Brent Scudder were interrupted by technical difficulties

Garry brought up two other issues to discuss:

1. Should spouses be allowed to attend meetings? Question was basically tabled for further discussion and no vote was taken.
2. Should we go to assigned seating at meetings to give members the chance to meet other members? Generally met with favorable reaction from members. No vote was taken.

No guests were introduced or votes on new members occurred

Dave Wood introduced our speaker, Jamie Hess (fellow Squire) to give his presentation on Energy efficiency and ways to save in the current environment of ever increasing costs.

The lack of a coherent energy policy by the government the last two years has led to ever increasing prices for the traditional sources of energy. The current government has been pushing alternative energy options including windmills, solar and other renewables. The government is pushing for windmills both off-shore and on land. Solar has been a more popular option and appears well suited as an alternative in the Southern part of the U.S. Nuclear power, which many view as practical, was not discussed. Hydro-electric power, which is in great supply from Canada, has been an issue for New Hampshire for years. Jamie Hess 's informative speech also highlighted the Community Energy Coalition initiative which will provide a 10% saving on electric bills when available in 2024 to New London and other supporting towns.

Jamie's excellent discussion covered the issues in great depth and we thank him for his timely speech.

Dave Wood announced that next month's speaker would be Dan Dailey who will give a presentation on glass blowing and glassware.

After the meeting the Executive Council met and discussed several issues:

Any changes to the Dress Code? General consensus was no with the feeling that "business casual" should continue and that inappropriate dress discouraged with more formal attire preferred for the two annual events that include spouses.

December Meeting Event (Christmas Party) preparations were briefly discussed including full bar set up vs beer and wine.

Submitted by Tom Flynn, Secretary