

Minutes May 21, 2015
Craftsbury Energy Committee

Attending: Amelia Fritz, Ned Houston, Lisa Sammet, Toby Hansen and Mabel Houghton
Meeting commenced at 7:00 PM

1. Sustainable Energy Fair held on May 20, 2015

- What went right:
 - Attendance was 50+
 - Many attendees from other towns
 - Many good conversations and satisfied attendees
- What could be improved:
 - A venue with more space, maybe at the school
 - Ask presenters to bring table
 - Assign specific set-up tasks

2. Town Plan Energy section progress

- Amelia had just come from a meeting with the Planning Commission and they feel we are making good progress
- Everyone is assigned to write a first draft for their own section and send it to Lisa who will compile it and we can all read, make comments and edit.
- Ned has been finding difficulties in getting info for a list of all the people with renewable but he also has a long list. Knowing the overall amount of renewable energy for the town is difficult. The Efficiency VT information is from 2011 so it is quite old.
- Town Energy Usage: We should get figures from Town Clerk, Yvette Brown, about the amount of vehicle fuel, heating fuel and electricity used by the town to have as a baseline
- A goal should be to encourage the Town to use less energy.

3. We went over the questions pertaining to energy and energy committees in the Resilient Communities Scorecard that the Vermont Natural Resources Council produced.

- In some areas we do well, but in many areas, because we have no way to enforce our goals, we don't do well. Because Craftsbury has no zoning, there are not many ways to make people become more efficient.
- Based on what we learned from this exercise the following strategies were suggested:
 - Get baseline data for Town fleet and Town buildings for heat, electricity and fuel
 - Get an audit of all Town buildings from a Certified Energy Auditor
 - Create a flyer to promote solar standards and solar siting for people building new homes
 - Develop renewable energy guidelines
 - Find wording for policies regarding commercial-scale renewable development.
- Next Town Plan Energy committee meeting will be Tuesday, May 26, 2015 at 6:30 PM at Amelia's house.

4. Street lighting update

- After the street lighting forums in April we had an order with Hardwick Electric Department (HED) for 21 streetlights to be upgraded
- Amelia just got an e-mail from HED that they are looking into a fixture that is much more efficient, Andrew Ruschp from Efficiency VT is working with municipalities on the lights
- The project has to go through the Public Service Board approval for the new fixtures
- We need to add two light fixtures to upgrade which are on the Town Garage

5. The June program on Vermont Electric Coop net metering project for Wed. June 17, 2015

- No update

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM. There is no meeting scheduled for June at this time.