

## **Craftsbury Energy Committee**

### **Minutes of Meeting 11-19-2015**

**Present:** Fritz, Houston, Gregoire, Flint, Doug Hallam

**Agenda:** 1. Meet Doug Hallam; 2. Updates on street lights and elem. School project; 3. Energy Audit Drawing; 4. Land Protection Task Force mtg; 5. Review recent CEC events; 6. Other

### **NEXT MEETING 12-17-2015**

**Meet Doug:** New member Doug Hallam welcomed to the CEC. Has a background in solar work. Thanks for joining us!

**Updates:** a. Street lights have been slow. AF e-mail today elicited a flurry of activity and news. Some paperwork needing completion had slowed progress, but that is done and actual fixtures are moving off backorder status. We should (perhaps) see new lights in place by December.

b. Elementary school audit and button-up. New high efficiency lights are in the pipeline for installation; new boilers are as well. With cold weather here, thermal imaging should lead to other tightening up projects such as better weather stripping. There seems to be additional \$'s available to get work done. CEC should ask for actual audit report so we can see what is done and what is being planned. AF will talk with Steve Moffat from School Board to get a copy.

**Drawing:** Winners Will League and Phil Lovely and Belinda Brown. No actual progress to report as yet. KG will inquire about plans.

**Land Protection Task Force:** Several members of CEC attended. Perhaps they could help form a sub-group to consider language for renewable project siting guidelines. Much debate needs to happen around definitions of scale, potential differences of sensitivities in different areas of town (e.g. village proximity vs. rural field), commitment of Town to energy use mitigation as a strategy in land protection, etc. Wide-ranging discussion of types of projects that might fit under this umbrella, one of long-standing interest to CEC being community net-metering siting. Other issues of discussion included how the Town governs itself and how that can affect projects in both development and implementation stage. For example, will the Select Board have a specific process announced for Good Neighbor funds to be allocated? Does the Town have a specific commitment to lead by dedicating itself to reduced energy use in its buildings and annual operations? If so, where do we start? CEC perhaps should recommend a proper audit of Town Hall and follow-up work as a project for Good Neighbor funds for 2016.

**Recent Activites:** Heat Pump presentation a good success with some 50 people and an installer present to answer questions as well. Many from other towns to hear info. Tour

of COC also popular and very interesting to the 30 plus participants. Coat Swap also very successful. KG reports over 1500 articles donated and re-used. Good example of local action that can make a difference for people in need with no stigmas from a fun exchange that involves everyone. Beautification project resulted in another 80 bulbs to grace our Town next spring! Prior plantings have had reasonable success given issues of siting, impact from road work, etc.

**Other:** Town auditors need report from CEC on years' activities by Jan 10 (AF and LS have done this in past). VECAN Conference coming in early Dec. Those interested should get signed up. Good Neighbor Fund Proposal should be developed soon so can get on the Town Meeting warning (if, in fact, that is the way we are proceeding as a Town in deciding about those funds).

Submitted by NH

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