

Minutes: 2016-05-19

Craftsbury Energy Committee

Present: Jim Flint, Amelia Fritz, Kevin Gregoire, Ned Houston, Mabel Houghton, Lisa Sammet

Guest: Ben Civiletti from Vermont Natural Resources Council supporting VECAN, Vermont Energy and Climate Action Network

1. CEC received a very nice thank you note from Phil Lovely saying they had a good walk-through with contractor Mark Snyder who does energy audits and work as a result of winning the prize of an audit at a CEC event.

2. Debrief of the NEK event to get other energy groups started

-Four towns expressed interest in collaborating at times: Irasburg, Glover, Greensboro and Albany

-Albany and Irasburg are linked on Front Porch Forum

-Greensboro and Glover are linked on FPF

-Perhaps siting of renewables would be good topic to work jointly on to get the correct language in town

plans, etc.

-Next steps:

1. A regional NEK energy group to look at the broader region wide issues

2. New England Grassroots Environmental Fund (NEGEF) has a grant idea to get this going

-Is there a project that CEC could do that requires money

-How to carry it out?

-Renewable energy site planning- need to strengthen wording in Town Plans

-Regional planning tools will include mapping according to Ben Civiletti

-Maps will show existing sites and potential sites

areaenergy
could hire

- Discussed different scenarios to approach a NEGEF grant for organizing committees such as a "Hub" coordinator who oversees the grant and other people to carry out the work.

Buildings

- No one felt we had enough time to get a grant in by the June 16 deadline
- Perhaps we could apply for a NEGEF grant to do energy audits on Town

East

- Think of ways to better make a case for efficiency projects such as done in

Charleston and Marshfield

onenergy

3. Ben will set up a 5 town listserv so the 5 towns can communicate with each other

Issues and collaboration

towns and

- Each person will be sent out an invite to join the listserv
- Will use the listserv to give two choices for dates to meet with the other

set up the regional collaboration

in 2016,

- Dates proposed: Wed. June 8 or Thursday June 9 from 7 PM to 8:30 PM
- Ben will create an agenda, bring snacks, do an overview of legislation passed

and forming a regional Round Table

3. Patrick Kane talk held on Wed. May 18, 2016 was attended by 27 people

4. Town Plan 2016 Energy Section- Review and Update

- Can amend this section once we know what the new rules will be after the legislative session
- Must bring this need to the Planning Commission and Select Board

-Hearing on Town Plan brought up the issue that we are “encouraging renewables” but the wording has

no limitations which could open up the town for a large scale project

-Question if we are encouraging conservation. There is wording to that effect. Should it be stronger?

-The Town Plan is now in the hands of the Select Board. They can accept or reject.

-Another Hearing on the Town Plan is going to be scheduled

5. Updates:

-Greenspace: local people, have many local efforts incorporated, still short of money

-Beautification: only one person went out to look to find the spots, Jim Flint, running 9 miles, found 5 out

7 sites and won the creamee

6. Summer and Fall planning

-Plan to take most of the summer off

-Old Home Days Float: Amelia, Kevin and Lisa (Lisa will help the day before and try to get to the parade on

Time but has a Jeudevine Library event in the morning).

-Fall presentations

-Kevin looking at two Efficiency Vermont programs: Modern Wood Heat and Affordable Modular

Housing

-Kathy will show film GASLAND

-Mabel thinks that after showing PLASTIC PLANET we should do a book discussion on the book:

MY PLASTIC FREE LIFE

7. Other

-Kevin has been talking to a Minnesota company that installs Solar Heat Furnaces. The side of the Town

garage would work for this.

-The committee felt that Kevin should continue to explore this and get enough info so that we could

present the info to the Select Board

Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting with regional energy groups TBA

Minutes written by Lisa Sammet