

BRISTOL ENERGY COMMITTEE (BEC)

Minutes of BEC Mtg – Wednesday, Feb 17, 7pm

Barash Mediation Office – 27B Main St, Bristol

(Across from National Bank of Middlebury)

Voting Members

Mike Corey – Energy Educator

Bob Donnis – Retired Efficiency VT Employee

Brendan Gallivan – Solar & Wind Advisor

Sue Hawkins – UVM Extension – Sustainable Agriculture (Energy & More)

Wendy McArdle – Previous Director of Energy Action Network and VT Energy Educ Program (VEEP)

Matt Sharpe – Certified Building Analyst and Senior Energy Consultant, Efficiency Vermont

NOTE: Quorum present 4 out of 6 members

Advisers:

Dave Cobb – Solar Advisor

John McCormick – Environment Advisor

Minutes:

1) Visitor's business - none

2) Mike – VECAN Conference Summary

- Very eye opening conference
- State Treasurer presented the money available for energy, housing, infrastructure, and more
- Grant, but mostly low interest loans
- Mike share a number of handouts at the conference
- He will scan and send them to us
- There may be opportunities for funded projects in the town
 - o Town buildings
 - o Homes
 - o Businesses
 - o Community Solar

3) Brendan – Electric Car charging station status

- Working with Ian Albinson of Bristol CORE
 - o Business interest to bring travelers with electric vehicles to Bristol
- Possible location in parking lot to the east of Shaws
 - o Brendan to contact Therese for Town connection to the Pomerleau Agency to pursue permission
 - o 2 parking spaces would be needed
 - o Level 2 chargers because no 3-phase power
 - Takes 2 hrs to charge a car
- Other locations pretty much ruled out
 - o Howden Hall, the Green, Old High School, Merchants Bank
- Next steps for grant application
 - o March/April grant request due (State, GMP)
 - o Bob to contact Middlebury Energy Committee to get copy of their grant request

4) Wendy – GoVermont/GoAddisonCo Update

- a. Text Update status – text was changed to our recommendations
- b. 2/17 Survey is LIVE: Posted on Front Porch Forum
- c. Printed version of survey – 25 11 x 17 folded copies are in the Town Offices
- d. Survey link: www.surveymonkey/r/BristolGoVT
- e. Town Website – Wendy to ask Pam to add the survey announcement and link on www.bristolvt.com
- f. Brenan to add announcement and link on facebook.
- g. John volunteered to put posters up around town announcing the survey
 - i. Point people to the Bristol town website (easier to remember)
 - ii. Also let people know there are paper copies in the town offices
- h. Wendy will do periodic postings on FPF (like every 3 days or so) as a reminder
- i. Wendy to request more paper copies for Town Meeting, and the Voting day

5) Brendan – Main St LED lighting

- a. Communication with Scott from “Visible Light”
 - i. Scott now has the info on the current lighting fixture
 - ii. Looking at possible LED replacement that would work and look OK
- b. Bob mentioned that the 4 new lights at the 4 corners may be LEDs

6) Bob – Community Solar (CS) for Bristol Status

- Possible Lincoln Site – not applicable
- RFP update to ask developers to find suitable locations – no update
- Status of GMP proposal to PSB – not approved yet – no projection when it may be approved
 - o Should get our application in soon to get in the queue for when it is approved
- Status of ACORN’s 150KW CS in Shoreham – no update
- Bob to re-look at the Bridport site as it may meet the proposed GMP requirements

7) John McCormick – Preparing VT for Climate Change Future

- Comprehensive Energy Plan (CEP)
 - o 90% of VT Energy needs by 2050
 - o Very far away from that goal
 - o Concerns about how the costs will affect individuals
- Alternative Carbon Tax proposal
 - o Discussion about carbon tax revenues
 - Revenue neutral dividends may not achieve change in habits
 - Suggestion: Revenues go to help people reduce the cost of heating and driving by a great deal more than the cost of the tax

- Tax offsets – enhanced rebates (heating and higher MPG cars)
- Income based supports
- There is movement in Republican Party to address climate change
 - Republicans for Environmental Protection – Bob Stetson (Michigan)
 - Bob Inglis – former US Senator – TED talk distributed by Wendy
- Climate Change Cabinet – Deb Markovitz – Sec of Agency of Natural Resources

8) FPF TIPS to be posted

- A) Sue – Lighting Terminology – done!
- B) Mike – Basements – no update
- C) Bob – Re-post Walk-thrus - done
- D) Sue – Greenhouse Opportunities – no update
- E) Brendan? – Water Heater – working on it
- F) Bob – Washers and Dryers – no update
- G) Mike – Insulation and Air Sealing – no update
- H) Matt? – 10% tax credits for Heat Pumps, Boilers, Furnaces, Bio-Mass Stoves, Windows, etc
- I) Other ideas

(Note: Process for TIPS is to email them to all BEC members for review before posting).

9) Meeting Times

- a. Fixed date/time each month: 3rd Wed at 7PM
- b. NEXT: **Mar 16**

10) Other

a. Regional Energy Roundtable – Feb 15

- i. Attendees
 - 1. VECAN Host – Ben Civiletti
 - 2. Weybridge Energy Committee – Fran and Spence Putman
 - 3. Middlebury Energy Committee – Laura Asermily, Jason Kaye, Chris Robbins,
 - 4. Bristol Energy Committee – Bob
 - 5. Go VT – Nadine Barnicle
 - 6. AC Regional Planning Commission – Josh Donabedian
 - 7. VT Nat Resource Council/Energy Independent VT – Hannah Huber
- ii. Energy Committee summaries of projects
 - 1. Great from all committees
 - 2. Loved our FPF postings and Home Energy Walkthrus
 - 3. Cyclist & Motorist education
 - 4. V-Bikes
 - 5. Electric Vehicle Education
 - 6. Transportation
 - 7. Commuter rail possibility in the future
 - 8. Towns purchasing fuel efficient vehicles
 - 9. And much more...
- iii. Collaboration
 - 1. Get ideas and projects descriptions to all Committees in the AC
 - 2. Use a “LISTSERV” to make it happen

3. Meet once a quarter

b. BEC Chair Person Rotation

- i. A motion was made by Brendon, Seconded by Wendy:
The Chair Person of the Bristol Energy Committee will serve for 1 year. At the end of the year, a new Chair Person will be nominated and elected. The Chair responsibilities will rotate through all members of the Committee.
- ii. Voted and approved 4-0