

Bristol Energy Committee

December 16, 2020 Minutes

Present: Sally Burrell, Richard Butz, John McCormick
guests: Senator Christopher Bray, Jono Chapin

1. John initiated a discussion with Senator Bray and BEC about the Transportation Climate Initiative. A variety of perspectives were shared, along with touching into Covid and the new Climate Council.

2. Senator Bray briefed the committee on his legislative priorities for the upcoming legislative session as chair of the Vermont Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy. He outlined 2 bills. Bill 1: Creating an **All Fuels Energy Efficiency Program** for all three major sectors of energy use: electricity, thermal, and transportation. Presently Efficiency Vermont covers electricity only. Bill 2: **Weatherization for All**: an enhanced weatherization program, scaling over time to enable VT to weatherize 120,000 homes in the next decade.

Senator Bray is also working on a Commercial Scale Renewable Energy bill to increase projects from 500KW to 5MW for competitive pricing of electricity in the market. Given the serpentine nature of tonight's discussion, Richard will arrange a legislative brief with Chris at another BEC meeting to have a more succinct video available for residents to learn about legislative energy updates.

3. Brainstorming led to project ideas to build community around energy education and conservation.

- Subscriptions to Bristol Community Solar when ready (Richard, Sally)
- Promote sharing electric lawn mowing equipment among neighbors. (Sally)
- Research speaker series around climate and energy. (Richard)
- Develop an Energy/Conservation monthly subject, film series (Jono)
- Create a "Take It or Leave It" Food Stand (maybe near the horse ring?) (Sally)
- Consider a Local Farm Tour to showcase sustainable farming. (Richard?)
- Restart *Window Dressers* when the pandemic ends. (Stephen?)
- Start a Truck pool, so people can access a (painted?) cargo vehicle. Ask Dave Sharpe and Hannaford Career Center for ideas. (Sally)
- Collaborate with Bristol Recreation, Alex, Meredith. (Jono)