

Bristol Energy Committee Zoom Meeting Notes 10.20.2021

BEC members present: Sally Burrell, John McCormick

Bristol residents: Jim Quaglino, Patricia Hunt

1. The Electric Vehicle Parade and Fair on October 16th at the Bristol green drew a dozen EV owners and GMP staff with their cars for people to see and ask questions about, or to test drive. Brands included Chevy, VW, Tesla, Toyota, Hyundai and Nissan, with various models. About 25 people came to meet with folks who had experience to share. People were surprised to hear of the large incentives available. For example a \$30k car could be bought for \$18k. Some people start by leasing a car for two years, also with incentives. It was a casual and inspiring atmosphere and many people took test drives for comparison. Cost of maintenance for an all electric vehicle are about half the cost for a car with an internal combustion engine. The website, driveelectricvt.com, offers lots of information and a chart for make/model comparisons of price, electric range, cargo space, seats, battery size, incentives.

2. The BEC booth at the Harvest Fest went well with visitors learning about weatherization, electric lawn equipment, insulating window inserts, the EV Fair, Climate Justice, and using bikes and Tri Valley Transit.

3. Update on Window Inserts Build - measuring is done, checks are sent and lumber is being cut for the frames in Maine. Nov 3 we'll pick up the kits and equipment and begin building the frames and assembling the window inserts at Holley Hall. We could use more volunteers between Nov 4 and 9. The 8 stations have simple, trainable tasks. Shifts are 3.5 to 4 hours each. Covid precautions will be in place, including vaccinated volunteers, temp taken upon arrival, fresh air and ventilation, and socially distanced work spaces. Contact me if you'd like to sign up to volunteer or learn more.

4. The Roundtable became a discussion about climate change and climate action planning, the Vermont Climate Council's work, "Renewable" Energy Credits, lifecycle accounting of GHG emissions, and the responsibility we have to our children and their children to act boldly now. It was eye-opening and sobering.... 22 lbs CO₂e emitted per gallon of gas?! Can we put aside aesthetics to generate enough wind and solar in Vermont? Is there a future in investing in off-shore wind? Would simplifying our lifestyles be simpler? healthier? more connected to what matters?

Recording available on NEAT. Next BEC zoom meeting: Wed. November 17th

Notes by Sally Burrell