

Bristol Energy Committee

August 20, 2025 Meeting Minutes

7:00pm by Zoom

Attendees: Ben Skolozdra (BEC), Richard Butz (BEC), Jim Quaglino (member of the public), Allison Pouliot (BEC), Sally Burrell (BEC), Nick Guilbeault (member of the public), Carl Engvall (member of the public)

- i. Citizen Comments/Concerns
 - a. None
- ii. Approve Agenda
 - a. Farmer's Market 9/8 need coverage
- iii. Approve July Meeting Minutes
 - a. Approved unanimously
- iv. Bristol Community Solar Site
 - a. Carl email about pollinators and potential damaged panels
 - a.i. Mike Kiernan (Bee the Change) observed the damaged solar panels from adjacent baseball field. We should talk to ACORN. Sally to take the lead.
 - b. Who owns the site and operates the equipment?
 - b.i. ACORN with investment from community.
- v. Town Energy Plan Grant (Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants, EECBG)
 - a. Survey! No word on the intro meeting yet but Jolyon is on it.
- vi. Addison County Energy Committees Meeting (8/26/2025, 5:30pm-7:00pm, ACRPC Office)
 - a. Ben planning on attending. Sally and Richard are going. Allison attending as well.
- vii. Update on EV Chargers
 - a. Update from Norwich “In order to meet our cost share and make the project financially viable, we had been planning to use the 30C Alternative Refueling tax credit. With this tax credit sunseting, we are waiting for new guidance around safe harbor provisions that should be released in the coming week.”
 - b. Need to talk to Selectboard about this (Ian?)
 - c. Richard thinks he wrote the grant for L2 chargers which are just sitting there in “no decision” world. Who wrote the grant for L3 chargers? Richard can look into it.
 - d. Richard's impression was that it was funded so unclear what to do next.
 - e. The town is the responsible party for getting this across the line.
 - f. How can we increase pressure to get this thing moving?
 - g. Nick Guilbeault, member of the public, curious if there is a user fee for the EV charger. Do we know what charge network it would be on? Unclear right now.
 - h. Richard's church is in the final stages of activating EV chargers at their church. They are using another network provider that will permit expense tracking, etc.

- i. Town is on the hook for maintenance, we think.
- j. Ben to reach out to Freeda for grant language.
- viii. Update on MERP
 - a. In Basecamp, VIA had provided a proposal and there was supposed to be a kickoff meeting. On 7/22, David reached out and there has been no reply. Some traffic back and forth has been noted. VIA has been going back and forth with Meredith/Aidan, etc. Details on Holly Hall. Unclear if we have any deliverable updates. Allison will reach out on basecamp again to see what we can find out before September.
- ix. Addison County Energy Fair
 - a. Sent food vendor recommendations to Jolyon. Talked to AER, they are already signed up for the event.
 - b. Ben to follow-up with Jolyon on what our location is for that event.
 - c. Allison and Sally to coordinate getting BEC items to Vergennes.
- x. BEC Logo Design & T-Shirts
 - a. Kalah (In Stiches) has the order from Allison for the T-shirts, as designed by Dan!
 - b. Allison will coordinate picking them up and getting payment from everyone.
- xi. Other Business
 - a. Nick moved to Bristol in October of 2022 and is a member of the Fire Department. Nick was a UPS driver in MA before moving to Bristol to be a field tech for Fedex. He is interested in attending more meetings as member of the public.
 - b. Carl is waiting to hear back from CEAC, Carl wants to be an Energy Navigator.
 - c. Allison heard that CEAC recently got a grant that will allow them to do home visits in Brandon and Middlebury. They're off to a bit of a slow start in 2025, and are looking for more people. After joining, there is a training, Allison might try to be a fully trained navigator and to collaborate with Carl.
 - d. Do we have a table for the harvest festival? September 27, 2025 10a-3p. We all agree there's not enough bandwidth and with presence at Vergennes Energy Fair and Farmer's Market, there's enough presence this year.
 - e. In November consider what we are thinking about for 2026.

Next regularly scheduled meeting: September 17, 2025