

Bristol Energy Committee

October 15, 2025 Meeting Minutes

7:00pm by Zoom

Attendees: David Flaschenriem (BEC), Dan Batten (BEC), Mike Roy (Member of the Public)

- i. Citizen Comments/Concerns
 - a. None

- ii. Approve Agenda
 - a. No Changes

- iii. Approve September Meeting Minutes
 - a. Waiting until next meeting when we have a voting quorum.

- iv. Energy Navigator Project – Mike Roy
 - a. Mike described the Energy Navigator program
 - b. It started in Cornwall by someone with a building science background to help people connect with contractors and other financial resources for energy improvements in households.
 - c. Looking for additional funding opportunities with private grants, Efficiency Vermont, other grants. Current funding is valid through December 2026. Thinking about what the long term funding plan would be? Can there be any state involvement?
 - c.i. Would individual towns be willing to support via town budgets?
 - c.ii. Seems like the idea is for Energy Navigator program to supplement the work Efficiency Vermont
 - d. Mike talked to Bristol Clerk and preliminarily it sounds like there would need to be a petition that collected 165-170 signatures of active Bristol voters to get it on the Town Meeting ballot for a vote.
 - d.i. Other avenues would be a hypothetical BEC budget being utilized for this purpose but we don't have a BEC budget as far as we are aware.
 - d.ii. Sounds like the full ask is for BEC to get signatures.
 - d.iii. Mid-January deadline expected for signatures but should be confirmed with the Town.
 - e. Energy Navigator is only for residential.
 - f. Mike has been talking to Middlebury, Vergennes, Brandon, Bristol, Weybridge, Cornwall.
 - g. Mike has resources to provide to potential signatories to the petition in Bristol for additional information on the Energy Navigator program.

- h. It's not necessarily required to talk to the Selectboard before initiating the petition process but it would be a good idea.
 - i. Energy Navigators/CEAC doesn't impact commercial or industrial applications but lasers in on thermal sector for residents.
 - j. Are there user fees for people who use an Energy Navigator? No, only investment is time.
 - k. Mike can help BEC with coordinating the petition language and helping guide the BEC in this process if we choose to try to do it.
- v. AllEarth Renewables Site Visit
- a. Per email discussion, informal site visit and tour will be tentatively held on November 15
 - b. BEC to communicate final confirmation with AER on date and time.
- vi. Town Energy Plan Grant (Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants, EECBG)
- a. No update, unclear where this project stands in it's lifecycle.
 - b. Mike Roy has some updates from the Middlebury perspective. Middlebury invited Jolyon to provide a brief update to them and it was very helpful and informative.
- vii. Update on EV Chargers
- a. Level 3 is uncertain. Norwich is still re-evaluating it's financial incentivization for the work.
- viii. Update on MERP
- a. Last month (September), Basis of Design was put together for Holly Hall and the Library. This has been finalized and a construction manager is actively being solicited for the field work.
 - b. 2026 deadline for spending the funding is rapidly approaching.
 - c. There is concern about how soon work can start in Holly Hall depending on how fast a construction manager can be found and signed up for the project.
 - d. Silver Maple in Middlebury has been identified as a possible CM for the project.
 - e. Important context is that grant award is 2/3 of the overall request. Therefore, there is 2/3 of the scope to be done under the grant funding which will cover all the architect fees up front for design but the remaining 1/3 of field work could be shelved or funded by the Town or other grant means.
- ix. Other Business
- a. None

Next regularly scheduled meeting: November 19, 2025