

## Bristol Energy Committee

April 15, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Ben Skolozdra (BEC), Allison Pouliot (BEC), David Flaschenriem (BEC), Dan Batten (BEC), Jolyon Larson (Member of the Public/ACRPC), Sally Burrel (BEC)

1. Citizen Comments/Concerns
  - a. Jolyon is here to provide an EEP update and saw there was a MERP update on the agenda and wants to hear about how it's going.
  - b. Social resilience planning exercise as well (as part of municipal plan update). ACRPC (Jolyon) has been tasked with assisting on that project and is working on the enhanced energy plan work (other grant project).
2. Approve Agenda
  - a. Enhanced Energy Plan added (see below).
3. Enhanced Energy Plan
  - a. EEP is at the early stages. Nothing has been missed for Bristol. Data analysis for Middlebury plan will be similar for New Haven, Leicester, etc. Using an economy of scale approach to evaluate current use and LEED target data for Bristol already calculated (huge!).
  - b. Next steps are talking to people to get feedback, mapping exercises for the town, and a format style proposal.
  - c. There is an existing Bristol Energy Plan that can be built off of, which is helpful.
  - d. Jolyon will get us an outline of the format being proposed with some baseline data for layout. Take some time as a group to review and reflect, particularly on the policy proposal table; one that is populated with suggestions and a blank format for folks who want to introduce their own ideas.
  - e. Social resilience plan will help with outreach exercises to get input on the EEP. Jolyon has been working with AZ (zoning administrator), and they are meeting next Wednesday 4/22, with the planning commission meeting the Tuesday evening before. Jolyon wants as much help from us as possible but no heavy lift necessary for BEC.
  - f. Sally has seen the draft plan and has some formatting suggestions to help clarify what's in the plan. Jolyon agrees and will make note of it.
  - g. David and Dan met with the Planning Commission several weeks ago and suggested that David and Dan coordinate with Jolyon on an infrastructure subcommittee. Is this similar to what Jolyon is suggesting in our meeting tonight?
    - i. Not exactly; when Jolyon is working on planning, it's only in an energy capacity. In the infrastructure subcommittee, that will be more

comprehensive than just energy; think water, wastewater, roads, etc.

Should evolve with the next Planning Commission meeting next Tuesday.

- h. Planning Commission meeting is next Tuesday, 4/21 7pm.
4. Holly Hall MERP Update
- a. David on site last Friday
  - b. Walls and tapestry removed, they installed the building tape for insulation.
  - c. Some metal studs have been added against the wood studs because the walls are not plumb. A building science consultant confirmed this was an acceptable approach. Any concerns from historical preservation? Unclear but Contractor understands the implication.
    - i. The architect did not direct them to do this, but they are reviewing and confirming it will work. Contractor proceeding at risk.
  - d. Do we know if the new studs are increasing the final cost? They are doing it for no cost and are using a contingency in their pricing.
  - e. Does Contractor think they're on schedule? Some concern about library but not fully certain about Holly Hall. This is relevant because Rec Department needs the space for their programming.
  - f. David also has pictures from Library and will add them to the photo album. Jolyon will also be added to the photo album.
5. EV Chargers - Level 2 & Climate Action Office Site Host Survey
- a. Consideration being made for the Pomerlau Walgreen's parking lot. Ian working on getting an estimate from Cummings (buried utilities and concrete removal would increase cost)
    - i. Ben to follow up with Ian on location and current concept
  - b. Ian filled out Climate Action Office Site Host Survey for Bristol, potentially more to come on a new Level 3 opportunity.
6. Planning Commissioning Crossover Meeting Discussion
- a. Suggest BEC go to the Planning Commission meeting next Tuesday to participate and contribute.
  - b. The Planning Commission is creating smaller focus groups, such as infrastructure. BEC crossover with infrastructure makes some sense.
  - c. The past energy plan is a great input to the new Town Plan that the Planning Commission is working on.
7. Bristol Community Forum - 4/29
- a. Richard B. said he would be in attendance in a personal capacity
  - b. The organizer is looking for folks to join to speak to an energy-related focus group.
  - c. Sounds like some BEC members are interested in attending.

8. ToolShip Survey - Preliminary Results

- a. Ben to push survey back out now that the weather is warming up and people may be thinking about their yard care needs.

9. Legislative & Community Updates

- a. Net Metering - REVermont. Sally forwarded a slideshow from REVermont about the Public Utility Commission's proposed Net Metering rules. These changes will have a significant negative impact on homes with solar. A summary of the changes can be seen [here](#). Note that the public comment period on these proposed rule changes is open until 1 May 2026. A link to submit comments is [here](#).

10. Other Business

- a. Vergennes reached out about the Energy Fair. They are combining it with the Weybridge Eco Fair. Can Bristol help co-host? We don't know where it is but it is on 6/13. Sally to follow-up with Vergennes and tell them we can maybe have a table and do outreach in Bristol, but co-hosting is not something BEC can commit to this year.