

Minutes:

Group: Brattleboro Energy Committee

Attendees: Paul Cameron, Jason Cooper, Lester Humphries, Bob Rueter, Kathleen White. Guests: Gary Stroud, John Wilmerding

Topic	Discussion	Action
Agenda review, Introductions, Election of Officers	Gary Stroud has applied to be on the Brattleboro Energy Committee. John Wilmerding is here to present briefly on power purchase agreements. A motion was made to keep current officers in place.	Voted on keeping current officers in place. Approved.
Announcements	1. Paul attended orientation to being on town committees and found it helpful. 2. "Climate Action Now--Fast Forward Future" Action Conference on Climate Change Sept 9 at Center Congregational Church on Amherst Green. Bill McKibben will speak.	
Minutes approval		July minutes approved.
Sub-Committee reports	PACE: Lester, Paul and Bob met with Bob Fisher and got clear requests from him on what he needs to sign off on PACE. Sent info to him today. He will write a letter in favor of PACE to selectboard, if he gets info he needs. Suggested subcommittee meet with selectboard members individually or in pairs to ensure they are each informed. Also met with Barb Sondag. She does not want PACE to be part of special town meeting; it will need to wait until March's Town Mtg. Renewables: Solar for town: Integrated solar has put forth a proposal to provide 6-7% of town's energy needs. Site would be by the pump station by Retreat Meadows on town owned land. Hurdles will be finding the investment group. If town does not buy into this, IS will find another buyer, but at least the town will have been educated. Lester feels it's great we have an offer, so we can start the process. It may not be the best offer, we don't have to choose it.	PACE Subcommittee will pull together again to meet with Selectboard and be available for selectboard meetings.

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	<p>Power purchase agreements: John Wilmerding feels this option would be more palatable. Barb has said she will set up a work session with selectboard to learn more about power purchase agreements; anyone on BEC is welcome to attend. Jason and John W. would like to attend.</p> <p>Paul organized a solar electric and solar hot H2O workshop last year. Would Renewables subcommittee want to do this again? Good idea. John W. would like to be on this subcommittee and would be happy to work on organizing this workshop again.</p> <p>Transportation: Deb Sachs donating her services to help us strategize about next steps after Way 2 Go Commuter Challenge successes, with 2 local businesses on our roundtable winning participation awards. In process of collecting data on where Brattleboro residents are working and where Bratt workers are coming from, costs per trip, and van pooling potentials. Landmark College is looking into setting up van pool. We could create Go Windham website through GoVermont. Propose Roundtable meetings move to quarterly with guest speaker. Looking to invite All Earth Renewables to hear about their employee incentive plan--received award for highest participation in W2G challenge. Currently no public transportation service between Bratt and Keene. Considering hosting a summit in October with Keene on getting more people to sign up with GoVermont to decrease single occupancy vehicles.</p> <p>Efficiency: Phase 1 of Streetlight Project: LED lights will be installed the 3 test areas in next couple weeks-- 30s on Main St up High and Western to I-91; 20s on Cedar, Myrtle, and Spruce; and 40s on Putney Rd from Eaton to Technology Dr. Barb received call with concern that LEDs can cause interference with radio frequencies. Lester and Bob did driveby and found no</p>	<p>Lester will let selectboard know that John, who is not on BEC, would like to attend.</p>

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	<p>problem. John W. walked area and asked people what they thought and all are fine. Jason feels glare from light should be shielded. CVPS will talk to company they buy lights from to see if they can provide shields. GMP says the LEDs are "dark sky" compliant. Glare isn't as noticeable when all the lights are LED.</p> <p>EV Energy Saving Opportunities Report: Met with Barb. Went to Water Treatment Plant--spending extra \$8K/yr to heat. Not feasible to do anything there. Will incorporate energy saving changes when enlarge and renovate the 2 fire stations and police station. Once loan paid off on Honeywell project, savings will greatly increase. \$90K/yr for electricity and fuel. Paying \$11K/yr on loan until 2023. Should consider refinancing. Met with John O'Conner finance director. Weatherization Challenge through VNRC to start January, through local energy committees.</p> <p>European Model: no report. Ralph not present.</p>	
<p>2012-2013 Work Plan</p>	<p>Lester feels we're "hitting our stride" and being taken more seriously as we're asking the town to make changes. Our successes: PACE, Streetlight project, working with EV on town buildings, transportation, West River Trail (which started with BEC), a proposal for solar energy for the town, Solar Gallery up and running. Suggested addition: town buildings energy saving opportunities. Delete: Solar Gallery.</p>	<p>Look at current Work Plan at next meeting and consider whether we want to add or delete any items.</p>
<p>Next Meeting</p>	<p>Monday, September 10, 5 to 6:30.</p>	

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