

Minutes

Group: Brattleboro Energy Committee

Date: 2/13/12

Present: Paul Cameron, Jason Cooper, Sarah Edwards, Lester Humphreys, Anne Moore Odell, Bob Reuter, Andy Shepard, Kathleen White

Topic	Discussion	Action
Approval of January 2012 minutes		Approved
Check In/Announcements	<p>Sarah: Town energy committees speaking before the Vt Legislature Energy committee had huge impact-- re: so much going on around the state.</p> <p>Legislature should be doing more with weatherization, but lack of funds. Potential for 5 cent/gallon heating oil surcharge to help fund EV and weatherization.</p>	
Sustainable Business Awards	<p>Discussion: goes to efforts towards sustainability above and beyond their core business. Clarified criteria and nominees.</p> <p>Criteria: Energy Savings, decreased greenhouse gas emissions, use of alternative fuels, waste stream reduction (reuse of materials & using recycled materials), use of renewables, encourage transportation alternatives, use local employees/contractors, located in Brattleboro or serves Bratt residents, high impact, visibility and creativity.</p> <p>Nominees: Marina, W&W Housing Trust, WSWMD, Glenwood Collision, Lilac Ridge, Windham Farm & Food Network. Next year nominees: BFC, Building Green, Cersosimo, Estey Building</p>	<p>Paul will find out more about each nominee and send info out to committee. Each member should vote for their top 3 choices before the next meeting.</p>
Subcommittees	<p>PACE: complicating issue is that the town charter needs to be changed in order to establish town as PACE district. Selectboard need to approve putting charter change on town wide ballot in November. Representative town meeting needs to approve PACE after that. We will need to have an education campaign that says: "vote for this charter change that will allow PACE to go forward in Bratt. Current selectboard is in favor of PACE.</p>	<p>Need to get Town Mgr's sense that this is politically feasible.</p>

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	<p>Town Plan Energy Chapter: Planning Commission finalized the Energy Chapter recently. It's a very good plan.</p> <p>Renewables: Meetings have taken place between BDCC and solar providers. Some land is available at Book Press for solar installation. Tenants there must invest vs owners.</p> <p>Delta Campus wants to create a large solar array and sell energy to the town.</p> <p>Solar Project at Coop moving forward. To open in May. Town listers said they have no experience with solar on homes, so at this time taxes will not increase. Taxes would increase for businesses with solar.</p> <p>BS&L said residents are not taking advantage of energy related loans. BS&L would be willing to do a joint promotion with BEC about it. Term of loan: 10-12 years, fixed rate. (RVCU has a program, but variable rate).</p> <p>2 new listings on online "green homes tour": Our very own Andy Shepard!</p> <p>Transportation: May 14-18 is 2012 Way to Go Week. Committee is offering to give presentations to businesses' employees.</p> <p>350.org is holding Fossil Fuel Free visioning forums around the state.</p> <p>The Dan Burden Active Living Workshop planning committee met: bike lanes on Canal, and new median and crosswalk on Canal by BMH are priorities.</p>	<p>We will need to make sure plan is implemented.</p> <p>Sarah will report next meeting on Renewable Portfolio Standard.</p> <p>Renewables subcommittee will explore energy loan promotion with BS&L.</p> <p>Paul will send link to Green Homes Tour. Take a look!</p>
<p>Next meeting</p>		<p>March 12. Meeting will be 1 1/2 hours to allow more time.</p>

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