

## Minutes:

Group: Brattleboro Energy Committee

Attendees: Paul Cameron, Lester Humphreys; Ralph Meima; Josh Hilsdon; Jed Leslie; Bob Rueter; Chad Simmons

Date: March 4, 2013

Topic	Discussion	Action
Agenda review		
Minutes approval		February 2013 minutes approved by unanimous vote
Announcements	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Chad Simmons is the newest member of the Energy Committee.</li><li>2. VTrans meeting on the Putney Rd. Plan – Thursday, March 7, 6:00 pm</li><li>3. Forum on German renewable energy trip – Bob Walker and Margaret Cheney – Monday, March 11, 5:30 pm. Meeting on Project Atlantic to follow.</li><li>4. Representative Town Meeting – Saturday, March 23</li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Email Tad at <a href="mailto:eco@tadmontgomery.com">eco@tadmontgomery.com</a> to RSVP</li></ol>
Sub-Committee reports	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Renewables: <b>a. Solar Electric Project:</b> RFP is posted and invitations to bid have been sent out. Lester: this is a revenue-sharing scheme, no risk to the Town. Suggested criteria: investors lined up, land available, able to complete project in 2013, company's ability and longevity, discount rate, whether investors are at risk if project goes under. Town could accept multiple proposals..  <b>b. Electric car charging stations:</b> Jed and Jason talked with Green Mountain Power. GMP hasn't developed a strategy for chargers – they want off-peak consumption. Jerry Goldberg at the Chamber</li></ol>	<p><i>Renewables Subcommittee will meet with Barb to review proposals and make recommendations.</i></p> <p><i>Subcommittee will look at the Parking Garage and at what other towns are doing, and will estimate costs.</i></p>

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	<p>is interested in a Tesla charger located downtown. Omega Optical is installing a solar-powered charger behind The Church on Grove St.</p> <p>2. Efficiency: a. <b>Town Building energy audits:</b> Paul and Lester met with Barb to talk about funding for an energy audit of the Municipal Bldg. Barb said that the Town is re-financing the Honeywell project loan and there might be funds available from that.</p> <p>b. <b>Home Energy Challenge:</b> Training was held on Feb. 13. Approximately 20 volunteers are available in Brattleboro. Volunteers are making calls to homeowners who have had energy visits, to encourage them to move forward with projects. Local contractors are offering a discount on energy audits. Tad Montgomery is preparing a brochure on financing. Subcommittee is planning door-to-door outreach, home energy parties, media outreach and displays. Jed is doing a great job on website – <a href="http://www.brattleboroenergychallenge.org">www.brattleboroenergychallenge.org</a>.</p> <p>c. <b>Streetlights:</b> Paul, Kathleen, and Chad did an inventory of Chestnut, Fairview, and Belmont streets. Approximately 1/3 of the Town's lights have been converted to LEDs with few complaints.</p> <p>3. <b>Project Atlantic:</b> Ralph is working with Michelle Hood, a science teacher at BUHS. Students are starting a new unit soon. An intern may be available from SIT.</p> <p>4. <b>PACE:</b> 5 people came to informational session last week. Carol Weston from VEIC participated by speakerphone. Bob was interviewed by Olga Peters from the Commons.</p>	<p><i>Paul and Lester will follow-up with Barb.</i></p> <p><i>Committee member and volunteers will continue publicizing the Challenge.</i></p> <p><i>Subcommittee will continue streetlight inventory.</i></p> <p><i>Paul will send PACE presentation and Town Meeting agenda to BEC members.</i></p>

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	<p>3. Transportation: <b>Bratt/Keene Transportation summit:</b> will be working with Antioch to hold this as part of Earth Day.  <b>Way to Go Challenge:</b> May 13-17<sup>th</sup>.</p>	
<b>BEC Potluck/Retreat</b>	Paul suggested that the board hold an informal get-together at some point. It was suggested that we gather at the Flat St. brew pub after the next meeting on April 1.	