

Minutes: May 4, 2015

Group: Brattleboro Energy Committee

Town Energy Coordinator: Paul Cameron

Attendees: Michael Bosworth, Jason Cooper, Lester Humphreys, Tad Montgomery, Thomas Finnell, Bob Rueter

Topic	Discussion	Action
A-C) Call to order, Agenda review, April 6 minutes approval		-Minutes passed 6-0 with edits
D). Check-in, Introductions, Announcements	Integrated Energy Systems Subcommittee meeting – Monday, May 11, 5 pm Solar Summer Subcommittee meeting – Tuesday, May 12, 5 pm Solar Workshop – Monday, June 8, 5:30-7:30 pm, Marlboro College Graduate School Lester, Jason, and Chad are leaving the committee as of June 30.	Paul asked BEC members to recruit people to apply for the committee.
E). Guest speaker: Rep. Mike Hebert – current energy legislation	Rep. Hebert did not show.	
F). Subcommittee Reports:		
1). Energy Efficiency a. Town efficiency plan	Efficiency improvements are underway (conversion of decorative streetlights to LEDs and other lighting upgrades). Town received 15 proposals in response to RFQ for energy audits. The review committee will meet on Friday, May 22 to discuss them.	
2). Renewables a. Solar electric projects b. Solar campaign	The Selectboard authorized the Town Manager to negotiate new, more favorable terms with Next Sun on the Westminster project at their April 28 meeting. Since the Town is not purchasing all the net-metering credits from the project, the billing has to be on a percentage basis. The Town has to tell GMP what percentage to apply to each bill, which creates a lot of work for the Town, since the credit and bill amounts change each month. If the Town purchased 100% of the credits from a system, the credits could be allocated on a cascading basis – much easier for Town. Currently, the Town must use the percentage method	Paul will talk to Johanna Miller at the VNRC to see if there is a legislative solution to the billing problem. The committee voted 6 - 0 to give the chair the authority to write a letter to legislators about the billing issue.

	due to the Public Service Board's interpretation of the net-metering law. This will be a problem for the landfill project, since there will be multiple off-takers of credits.	
3). PACE	The Selectboard voted to authorize the PACE program at their April 28 meeting. Thanks to everyone who has worked so hard on this for the last 5 years.	Paul will publicize the program and organize an public informational forum in June.
5). Transportation	The Way To Go Smart Trip Challenge will be held from May 4-15.	Paul urged everyone to sign up at www.waytogovt.org
6). Project Atlantic	Paul read note from Ralph – hard to maintain this type of project with volunteers, might work better as a CCV or Career Center course. Committee discussed whether to continue the subcommittee. If it continues, it needs to have a chair.	No action taken.
F) Feedback and next meeting date/topic/speaker	Monday, June 1, 5:00 – 7:00 pm in the Hanna Cosman Room, Brattleboro Municipal Center	Ralph Meima and Dan Ingold will present solar project plans.