

Minutes: 05/06/2013

Group: Brattleboro Energy Committee

Attendees: Paul Cameron, Jason Cooper, Josh Hilsdon, Lester Humphreys, Jed Leslie, Tori Managan, Ralph Meima, Bob Rueter, Chad Simmons, Kathleen White. Guests: Zoe Armstrong, David Schoals, Chuck Clerici

Topic	Discussion	Action
Agenda review & introductions		
Minutes approval		Approved unanimously
Announcements	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Home Energy Challenge Tour Saturday, May 11. 4 homes.2. Way to Go Commuter Challenge May 13-17.3. Lester passed around his new low flow 1.5 gpm showerhead (Flowise) from American Std. Can get it at Home Depot.4. Paul working on BEC annual report for May 21 Select board meeting.	All encouraged to sign up at www.waytogovt.org Put info about showerhead on BEC website; we could have a product recommendation section.
Sub-Committee reports	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Project Atlantic: 3 people have signed up with interest in meeting—a critical mass. Ralph is thinking schools may not be the best way to get these studies done. There is so much the students are required to do. The 2 presentations about renewable energy in Europe provided a lot of helpful information.2. Efficiency: a.Vt Home Energy Challenge: Brattleboro is leading the state in the # of units weatherized since 1/1/13 (12 homes have received the incentive from EV). 6 teams of 2 are going door to door to promote the challenge. 1 Home Energy party has	Ralph will send an email tonight o those interested, to set a meeting time and date. Subcommittee will discuss other possibility to get the work done. Paul will send profiles to Jed to get on Brattleboroenergychallenge.org website.

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	<p>taken place, 5 being scheduled, 4 more considering. Paul put together a page with 8 mini case studies of homes weatherized, cost and payback times. Dedicated group of volunteers from BEC and community. Bob has been doing more energy audits than usual for this time of year.</p> <p>b. Streetlights: continuing to do inventory of lights in town. Paul is comparing bills from this year to last, to assess the savings.</p> <p>c. Town Buildings: Funds to do energy audits on town buildings were found from savings from Honeywell project. Needs to be done by July 1.</p> <p>d. Ice rink: needs new compressor. Jason, Lester and Paul met with Paul Ethier to discuss. Working to get meeting with EV and Paul Ethier. Rink is ripe for energy savings, and Paul is receptive to working with BEC to see what can be done. Also looking at swimming pool and possibility of solar.</p> <p>Fire and Police renovations: Paul and Lester have gone to these meetings to keep efficiency at forefront. BEC is hoping to persuade selectboard to not cut items from budget that could save \$ in the long run.</p> <p>3. Renewables:</p> <p>a. Solar Electric: Selectboard approved 500 kw project with Integrated Solar, which is still looking for land. \$7500/yr is leasing price. WSWMD is possible site. 30 acres available. Long discussion about possibilities for town and solar in the future. Use of coops for financing would decrease sense of competition, keep \$ in our town. A bigger system (using the whole 30 acres) would enhance the economics of the region. Would have to weigh the risks/benefits. Town's consumption is 2 mw. 5 options: Negotiate for a fixed price, variable price, do a bigger system and sell electricity to businesses and others, own the system, not do anything else. These options will be presented to</p>	<p>Efficiency subcommittee will meet today to decide on vendor for audit and which buildings should be audited.</p> <p>If anyone is aware of suitable land for the town's solar array, let Lester know.</p>

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	<p>select board.</p> <p>b. Electric Car charging: Jason met with Alex Gyori. He feels Preston Lot would be better suited. More accessible to Transportation Ctr. Coop would support that and is willing to pay the electric bill (Patrick Moreland implied town would pay for installation costs—about \$5K). Could put one charger in now, and if demand add another, up to 4 units. Would want to include charger for bicycles. May be a baseline monthly charge for units. Latchis Hotel and Sam's could benefit from it too.</p> <p>c. Solar Workshop follow up: Survey of attendees indicated 6-10 are interested in installing PV.</p> <p>4. Transportation: High Meadows Fund convened a meeting with people working on transportation around the state in Brattleboro last week. Highlights: Upper Valley Transportation mgt potentially could expand to Brattleboro or provide support to our efforts. West River Valley Mobility study was discussed too—they have 5 task forces to follow up on study findings and develop next steps.</p>	<p>Jason will look into warranties and benefits of being under cover vs outside; ensure Coop is aware of monthly baseline fee. Jason will talk to Latchis board and Sam's about contributing toward installation.</p> <p>Paul will set up a meeting with UV TMA and Matt Mann, and BEC transportation subcommittee.</p>
<p>Acknowledgement of Paul Cameron's good work</p>	<p>Lester took time to thank Paul for all his work; being the conduit to the town, and being on every BEC subcommittee. Paul thanked the committee for all the good work we all do.</p>	
<p>Next meeting speaker ideas</p>	<p>Josh has been researching hot water heating alternatives, such as air source heat pumps and hybrid heat pumps, and would like to see this as part of BEC discussion.</p>	<p>Paul will invite David McManus who knows a lot about this issue to the next meeting.</p>
<p>Next meeting</p>		<p>June 3, 5 PM</p>

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