

Minutes: 04/03/17

Group: Brattleboro Energy Committee

Attendees: Michael Bosworth, Milt Eaton, George Harvey, Oscar Heller, Tad Montgomery, Kathleen White.

Guest: Roseann Grimes

Topic	Discussion	Action
Announcements	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Bratt 350.org is meeting with legislators tonight2. Safer Streets Forum May 11, 5:30-7:30 at Green St School Library.3. George and Tad's prospective proposals for WRC Renewable Energy Grants were deemed not inconsistent with the town plan by the Selectboard and sent to WRC before the deadline.4. People's Climate March in Washington, DC and sister march Montpelier 4/29/17.5. Solar Project at SIT: 150kw, will be incorporating agriculture in with rows of panels.	Kathleen will send out e-flyer for Safer Streets Forum.
Approval of March 6 minutes	Minutes approved 5-0 after a few minor changes.	Kathleen will make changes to minutes and send to Jan Anderson, TM Secretary.
Wastewater Treatment Plant Audit	WWTP plant was not included in the buildings audit completed in 2016. \$30 million worth of renovations were done to the plant recently. Keith Dewey of the renovation team said he recommended efficiencies that were cut from the renovation budget. Gary Swindler of EVT recommended the plant be retrocomissioned. Steve Barrett said "now could be a good time to do it". The plant includes an anaerobic digester that could be providing heat for the plant with some leftover. The digester hasn't been effective since town started curbside composting, because there hasn't been enough "food" for it. Tad set up a meeting on 4/25 at 9 AM at the plant for WWTP staff, Patrick Moreland, Peter Elwell, Michael Bosworth, Gary Swindler and himself, with an outside consultant Steven Bolles, to discuss retrocomissioning the plant. WSWMD has applied for a WRC RE grant to build an anaerobic digester...do we need both?	

<p>Community Energy Dashboard</p>	<p>Michael sees the dashboard as a potentially good community involvement tool (such as with schools) and he devised a work plan, should BEC want to create a sub-committee to work on this. It could be a valuable way to exchange information and a momentum builder. Town Energy Committees could use it to share town energy usage; businesses could use it. Milt is concerned it would become outdated quickly. Oscar doesn't see it "going viral" in Brattleboro. Committee not overly enthused.</p>	<p>Michael may pursue this on his own and find other enthused folks.</p>
<p>Review of Representative Town Mtg re: energy matters</p>	<p>a. Michael made a motion at town meeting and Reps agreed to add \$10K to budget to support the work of a town energy coordinator (not a town employee) while Peter Elwell researches possibilities of creating a town position for an energy or sustainability coordinator. More than 1 person has expressed interest in the current 1 yr position. The Selectboard will discuss this at 4/4 meeting. Discussion ensued about whether there should be another press release in the paper about the position, and whether the Energy Committee should be involved in choosing the candidate vs an appointment made on 4/4. b. FY18 budget provides \$71K for energy saving measures recommended in the audit for the municipal bldg. Also \$204K for library (including the air handler), \$30K for Gibson-Aiken windows, and \$30K to study a new or renovated DPW bldg.</p>	<p>a.BEC members should contact selectboard members to share thoughts about this or show up at the meeting on 4/4 to listen and express opinions.</p>
<p>Project/sub-committee reports</p>	<p>1.Transportation met on 3/29. Decided a way to enhance collaboration with the numerous entities working locally, regionally, and statewide on transportation issues would be to create a resource list of the groups. Decided a FB page would be a good way to enhance communication about the transportation work being done, events, stories linking walking, biking, taking the bus to improved health, etc.if town would allow it. V-bike wants sub-committee to co-sponsor the "Drive Less Fest" in June. Date TBD. Sub-Committee will continue to brainstorm about larger employers that may benefit from GoVermont's carpool/vanpool services for the Smart Commute</p>	<p>Oscar will create the document for Transp resource list, which Kathleen will share with sub-committee. Kathleen will check with Jan Anderson on town policy re: social media. Next meeting for transp. sub-committee is 5/24/17 5 PM.</p>

	<p>program. Tad suggested groups, such as Young Professionals and local 350.org, could be targeted, as well as employers.</p> <p>2. Energy Efficiency: Tad's Renewable Energy grant proposal is to work with downtown building owners to have energy audits and do the weatherization work. They would have to be convinced they would save money.</p> <p>Zero Energy Now: 2nd year funding is focused primarily on using the program to leverage for increased solar.</p> <p>3. Integrated Energy Systems: George's nanogrid proposal for WRC RE grant.</p> <p>4. Energy Data: Paul Cameron used to extract data on town energy use and feed to Lester to create graphs. Maybe the new Energy Coordinator will be able to do this.</p>	<p>George will write a 1-2 page paper on energy efficiency to review at our next Energy Committee meeting.</p>
Review of 2017 Work Plan	Reviewed work plan to see where we are, how much we have accomplished, what still needs work.	<p>-George offered to write a 1-2 page paper about energy resilience/energy independence by next BEC meeting, to review before sharing with selectboard.</p> <p>-BEC will create FY 2018 work plan in early fall.</p>
Next meeting date	Monday, May 1 5 PM	