

Brattleboro Energy Committee

Date: Monday, July 10th, 2017

Town Energy Coordinator: Phoebe Gooding

Attendees: Michael Bosworth, Kathleen White, Thomas Finnell, George Harvey, Oscar Heller, Tom Franks

Guest: Peter Elwell, Tad Montgomery, RoseAnn Grimes, Daniel Quipp

Topic	Discussion	Action
A). Call to order, Agenda review		
B). Approval of June 26 Minutes [5]	Amendments proposed. Phoebe to check requirements for passing a motion.	Vote: 4-0-1
C). Officer elections—chair, vice chair, secretary (10 min.)	Kathleen nominated M. Bosworth as Chair. V. Chair tabled. Secretary: Kathleen volunteered, Tom F. nominated Kathleen.	Chair vote: 5-0-0 Secretary vote: 5-0-0
D). Guest Peter Elwell, Town Manager, to talk about Sustainability Officer research and Town building capital improvement projects and possibly the U.S. Climate Alliance/Mayors National Climate Action Agenda/VT Climate Pledge Coalition question/strategy. (30 min.)	<p>1. Sustainability Officer: Patrick Morelend will be working to explore the Sustainability Officer position for the Town Manager’s office. The committee hopes to have a recommendation to BEC and the Selectboard by September. Burlington’s Mayor Weinberger was helpful to Peter re their Sustainability Officer. Peter expressed concern re the number of initiatives tugging on the Town’s purse strings right now. He acknowledged that this role will be as active out in the wider community as within the municipality.</p> <p>2. Town is still planning to rent a portion of the Municipal Center to the State, which would assist substantially with the cost of renovations. Detailed negotiations likely will not conclude until Sept. The earliest that this would be brought to RTM is in Oct.</p> <p>3. A shared wood pellet heating system for the Munic. Ctr. & library is still possible, and is very likely in the event of the State as a tenant. If the State deal falls through things get much more complex.</p> <p>4. MB asked about use of enterprise funds, esp. re energy upgrades to the Pleasant Valley Water Treatment Plant. Peter said that the Town plans to scope a generational renovation of the WTP in the next year and include recommendations from the energy audits. Town is ready to go re the contract for planning and design of that scope.</p> <p>5. Daniel Quipp raised the issue of the Town’s CO₂ emissions and asked whether the Town would commit to a specific percent reduction. He mentioned the petition that he has developed online asking the Town to eliminate the use of fuel oil. Peter responded that he cannot himself make a</p>	

	<p>commitment by himself, and talked about the process that the Town could undertake to make such a commitment. He talked about the VT League of Cities and Towns making a commitment to organize a movement that will work fast and hard on this issue. He believes that a lot of people are pushing on this issue, and that Brattleboro will be signing on to something by winter.</p>	
<p>E) Check-In/Introductions/Announcements—Open Meeting Law training session (10 min.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phoebe will be gone 7/24-31 and off of mail. • Phoebe was contacted by Coil Pop which cleans refrigerator coils. She'll research. • Phoebe discussed the new non-profit that she is setting up to receive funds from the Town. • MB attended a meeting at the train station with Vermont Rail Action Network to discuss the status of the station and how to fund certain basic upgrades. A design for upgrades was done ~5 years ago. Many townspeople attended. • Open meeting law training July 26th, 6 PM, Selectboard meeting room. 	
<p>F. Brattleboro Climate Accord proposal for adoption by BEC with intention to present to Selectboard. (10 min.)</p>	<p>Peter recognized the importance, but doesn't understand the implications of the different targets and needs to before he can react responsibly. He suggested that BEC get the language together for this, discuss it at the Selectboard meeting Aug. 1st and then formally present it Aug. 15th. Tom Franks raised issue with some of the language.</p>	<p>Sent back to committee.</p>
<p>G. Update from DBBEP (10 min.)</p>	<p>Peter urged BEC to join this to the Climate pledge proposal as a package and describe the interrelations with a clear ask from the S'bd. Think it through well rather than rush to meet a deadline.</p>	<p>To be discussed at greater length at the July 31st BEC; come up with an plan to present this jointly with the Climate proposal.</p>
<p>H. Mission, Vision, and Work Plan changes/additions (15 min.)</p>	<p>Oscar suggested incorporating measureable tasks for each work plan item. Discussion, edits were made.</p>	<p>Sent back to committee.</p>
<p>I. Presentation for the August 1st Selectboard meeting (15 min.)</p>	<p>Oscar and Tom and George will all contribute to the developing presentation.</p>	<p>Sent back to committee.</p>
<p>J. Feedback and next meeting date (5 min.)</p>	<p>MB proposed next meeting for Mon., July 31st, with bulk of the meeting to be on the Climate pledge, DBBEP and presentation to the Selectboard. And Aug. 28th will be the meeting following that.</p>	