

Brattleboro Energy Committee

MINUTES

August 5, 2019, 5 pm

Attending Members: Oscar H (Chair), Carol L, Tom F, Ralph M (= quorum)

Members not attending: none (there are 3 vacancies)

- A. Introductions and announcements
 - a. Oscar: Bernie's office is happy to collaborate
 - b. Carol: EAN 9/26 upcoming Summit in Burlington
- B. Approve July 1 minutes
 - a. Accepted unanimously
- C. Discuss JouleSmart program
 - a. Oscar was contacted by a company that does this; a rep (Chris) will possibly attend a future BEC meeting. Basically an ESCO doing performance contracting. Mainly for private businesses.
- D. Report on sustainability coordinator goal
 - a. Carol: Recent article on Geoff Martin, the Hartford VT energy coordinator, who is generating savings that cover his salary cost. Local papers have seen a lot of support for hiring a sustainability coordinator.
 - b. Key issue: is a person a better investment than spending the \$100k on things?
 - c. Key vote on this coming up on 8/20. SB appears to be split on this issue.
 - d. Oscar anticipating an assistant planning commissioner working on sustainability impacts on the regional economy, social equity, and environment.
- E. Report on microgrid research goal
 - a. Nothing to report; Ralph will contact Tom F. to restart
- F. Report on networking with regional energy committees goal
 - a. Carol: Marion Major is looking at October ? at Newbrook Fire Station for a get-together. Ian Hitchcock from VNRC/VECAN is involved; did similar one in Arlington recently on how to start a town energy committee. Note: in Windham Co., there are about 25. About 80% of Co. towns. Will let us know soon. This is progressing. Gonna happen.
- G. Public participation
 - a. Ralph mentioned idea of 4/22/2020 Vermont "Foss-Off"
 - b. Rick Foley distributed a handout on "What is Sustainability Exactly?"
- H. Adjourn

NEXT MEETING: 9/9, 5 pm, Coop Community Room