

Brattleboro Energy Committee

MINUTES

September 9, 2019, 5 pm (Coop Community Room)

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

Members not attending: none (there are 3 vacancies)

Meeting called to order at 5:14 pm.

- A. Introductions and announcements
 - a. Meetings will always be here (Coop) unless otherwise announced.
- B. Approve August 5 minutes
 - a. Accepted unanimously 4-0
- C. Report on Sustainability Coordinator Goal
 - a. Putting together hiring committee and announcing job description this week. Oscar listed probable names of hiring committee, incl. 2 Selectboard people.
 - b. Noted: Oscar is distributing a report on other sustainability coordinators in the region.
- D. Report on microgrid research goal
 - a. Ralph suggested a design charette – a long-term project? Committee will consider and revisit.
 - b. Rick: resiliency-oriented
 - c. Ralph: has tended to focus on a subset of the town with large loads and generation resources on a local feeder
- E. Report on networking with regional energy committees goal
 - a. There will be a regional energy committee networking event on Thursday, 10/3, 5:30 – 8:00 pm, sponsored by the Windham Regional Commission and VECAN, at the Newbrook Fire Dept in Newfane. All local energy committees and coordinators should attend, plus Windham Co. residents who are interested in energy and climate action. WRC contacts are Chris Company and Marion Major. VECAN contact is Ian Hitchcock.
- F. Public participation
 - a. Rick Foley: Brattleboro is faced by “wicked problems” that go beyond energy issues. The new Sustainability Coordinator will need to include a consideration of the town’s (for example) homeless & panhandling issues. And economic vitality in general.
 - b. Ralph updated the Committee on continuing exploration of a fossil-energy-abstinence day in 2020 (state-wide).
- G. Additional item
 - a. Oscar: We discussed creating an energy report card or score sheet for the Town, showing the Town’s total energy mix. Create a working group? Let’s revisit next meeting to see whether we want to proceed with a motion.
- H. Adjourn

NEXT MEETING: 10/7, 5 pm, Coop Community Room