

Brattleboro Energy Committee

Monday, November 4, 2019

5:00 PM

Community Room, Brattleboro Co-op

Attendees: Tom Finnell, Oscar Heller, Tony Duncan, Rick Foley, Ralph Meima

Guests: Lester Humphries

Minutes

- A. Meeting called to order at 5:07 PM.
- B. Tony reported that his wife Millicent's attended the NEMS conference, and the possibility of hiring an intern for the sustainability coordinator.
- C. Rick reported that Keene State College is close to being 100% solar.
- D. Ralph reported that the Transportation Center solar project is officially dead, and that he attended the REV conference with a focus on hydrogen storage.
- E. **Vote: October 7 minutes approved, 5-0.**
- F. Oscar reported that the sustainability coordinator hiring process is on track and going well.
- G. Group discussion of microgrid possibilities and a decision to cancel the working group due to a lack of actionable work.
- H. Lester Humphries presented the idea of recommending that the town buy enough carbon offsets to be net zero. Based on an estimated 2233 tons of carbon to offset, the cost estimate ranged from \$18k to \$38k, with a preferred provider, Nature Conservancy, estimating \$30.4k.
- I. **Motion: The Energy Committee requests that the Selectboard investigate the cost and process of purchasing municipal carbon offsets for consideration in the FY21 budget. Approved, 5-0.**
- J. Group discussion of starting the project of preparing a comprehensive energy report for the Selectboard.
- K. No report on networking with regional energy committees because Carol was absent.

- L. Rick reported meeting with his daughter who's facilitating strategy for a group of local organizations around the subjects of affordable housing and the Austine campus. Group discussion of the model of family housing first.
- M. Meeting adjourned at 6:34pm.