

NH Energy Committee

MINUTES: Feb 12, 2018 at 4 pm

Town Office, Wheelwright Room, 10 Front Street

Attendance: Amy Farnham, Lew Hitzrot, Renay Allen, Robin Tyner, Julie Gilman, Russ Dean

Meeting began at 4 p.m.

ONGOING BUSINESS:

Feb 6 tabling event "Climate Community Open House" at Town Hall: Recap - 60 people attended. Much interest in electric vehicles table with big Level 2 charger, 13 people signed up for our energy newsletter, and one person was invited to sit in at this meeting as a potential new member (Robin, an oceanographer and meteorologist).

Electric Vehicle Charging Stations: Amy working with PEA, possible site behind St. Anthony bakery. Need to research more about paid EVchargers business models, find out about the one at Seabrook Walmart. It was decided to host an event downtown for National Drive Electric week (Sept 8) in collaboration with Transition Town and the local dealerships to raise awareness of EV's and EVC. Possible spot for town charger in municipal lot across from police station.

LED Streetlight conversion initiative: progress has been stalled due to lack of communication from Unutil. In early April we will set up educational meeting with David Webb, LED specialist from ReVision, and Henry Herndon, of NHSEA to speak on PUC/tariffs, and invite a few other Unutil towns. Then Russ will get the group/coalition a meeting with Unutil's Tim Noonis in mid-April. (Best days are Mon or Fri at 6:30pm)

Net-Metering for Waste Water Treatment Plant: When it comes online it will use almost twice the energy as the old one. Can we get a clean energy project going to offset this? Solar array at dump? Geo Thermal? Need ideas/sites. Need DES info on viability of transfer station. Will meet with Mark Leighton and his energy people at PEA in April and find out about their comprehensive energy strategy and the current state of their geo-thermal and huge solar array; how to avoid pitfalls, find out best-practices, etc., and tour rooftop solar array with town officials.

Electric Bills for municipal buildings: Had a level 1 audit of three buildings in 2008. Would like to audit all buildings and contact groups like CDFMA, NHSaves, etc. Library expansion to be voted on at March Ballot. Includes many efficiency measures. Stay tuned!

Recycling: first discussion of town recycling as a next project, much later, as per suggestion by Russ.

ACTION ITEMS:

Amy: Will continue work on getting energy bills from all municipal buildings and get first ideas re audits. Will contact Becky Ohler from DES Transportation and inform her of Exeter's plan to get public EVCs, ask advice. Will call Durham and learn more about gravel pit solar array.

Lew: Will ask town resources planner Kristen Murphy about possible clean energy sites. Will check with DES about viability of transfer station for solar siting. Will research commercial EVC plans like ChargePoint.com and prepare a report on options.

Renay: Will coordinate/incubate National Drive Electric Week collaboration. Will call Mark L at PEA and get tour time for town group. Will call Henry H of NHSEA and set meeting time for LED/PUC info night for coalition in April - and will also invite the other towns. Will set up a mailchimp template and send out our first e-newsletter to the lucky 13. (send email request to GreenXNH@yahoo.com if you want to be on it too, dear reader)

Meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Next meetings: Weds., Feb 28 & March 14 & 28