

## Energy Committee Minutes

November 6, 2019

7-8:40 PM

Charlotte Town Hall

In Attendance: EC members: Matt Burke, Rebecca Foster, Suzy Hodgson, Deirdre Holmes, Bill Kallock, and Doug Paton. Planning Commission Liaison: Gerald Boucher.

- 1) Review agenda – no changes.
- 2) Approval of 10/2/19 minutes – approved. Rebecca to post online.
- 3) Button Up November 9 – Suzy and Bill working on signups and snacks.
- 4) Window Dressers – project led by Transition Charlotte, which asked the CEC to co-sponsor. Vote to co-sponsor the project, passed.
- 5) Library solar – the most recent library board mtg was all positive and the RFP is out. Concern expressed about whether it's possible to retain the 30% federal tax credit if the system is not operational by 12/31/19. Rebecca to ask John to confirm. Vote to pay for up to 5 hrs of Leigh's time if needed, passed.
- 6) Preferred sites – John got a proposal from VHB to analyze town land, which we can use as a starting point for understanding how to proceed. We can eliminate 7 of the 14 town properties easily. Doing the analysis is a complicated process. A broader goal of analyzing public lands could be to devise a checklist for preferred sites that could be used for private properties in town; such a checklist could be used to identify and encourage landowners to use their land for PV. No timeline on this project, which we put in the 20/21 budget. Meanwhile Matt to continue to look at how developers would assess preferred sites. Eventually we can make a preferred sites working group, including people outside of the CEC.
- 7) Conferences
  - a) Matt went to the Energy Action Network conference in late Sept. Some items discussed: Vt is not meeting its benchmarks; calls for ppl to pitch ideas in areas of heating and transportation, i.e., Transportation and Climate Initiative (relevant as potentially new funding stream for town projects); zero energy new construction buildings (relating to, i.e., stretch energy codes); goal of 100% renewables by 2030 as a standard; and Global Warming Solutions Act). CEC will be following these actions of the coming months and look for community outreach opportunities.
  - b) Deirdre went to the REV conference in October, attended presentations on regional cap & invest transport initiative, modernizing/optimizing grid for increased electrification and importance of battery storage, increased role for efficiency. Efficiency VT is transitioning from kWh reduction to GHG reduction and using \$2.5M for weatherization incentives.
  - c) Bill went to a professional conference in CA and shared that they are trying to electrify the whole state to get to zero emissions, but they are so obviously bad at delivery they need to look at microgrids and such to tackle major structural problems.
  - d) VECAN conference is December 7 – Suzy and Deirdre are going; possibly Matt, Doug. Those going need to sign up by Nov. 22 for early registration fee.
- 8) Our Town Plan, voted in with 82% of the vote on 11/5/19, will go before the CCRPC

board for approval on 11/20. Matt to confirm nothing more needed from our end.

9) Matt has organized a P&R mtg 11/14, Town Hall, 6-7 pm with various reps, including Rebecca and Deirdre from CEC.

10) Matt reports that GMT is looking at criteria for bus stops, which would be helpful for anticipating where a good stop would be in Charlotte.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rebecca Foster