

## Energy Committee Minutes

June 3, 2020

7 PM

Remote meeting, via Zoom

In Attendance: Matt Burke, Rebecca Foster, Suzy Hodgson, Deirdre Holmes, Ethan Lisle; and Gerald Boucher, Planning Commission Liaison; Bill Stuono, Charlotte Resident.

- 1) Review agenda, make additions.
- 2) Unanimous approval of 5/6/20 minutes without changes.
- 3) Community energy engagement at the Library
  - a) The “conservation corner” in the library will be a physical place for linking and connecting energy ideas in the community
  - b) We can find/make a poster about home heat loss for a bulletin board
  - c) Infrared camera for thermal evaluation of homes for loan
  - d) VEEP energy education kits may have ideas for things to have on hand at the library. [veep.org](http://veep.org).
- 4) Food shelf weatherization items. Rebecca will finalize list with Bill Kallock, David Pill, Suzy, and Matt Sargent.
- 5) Think Resilience course starts June 11, advertising now for participants. Library is a strong partner.
- 6) Report from Deirdre on the town planner committee: many applicants, some well-prepared and some not, so a lot of weeding out, chose 7 to interview. One candidate rose to surface as favorite so Dean is calling references, several others if that doesn't work. Almost all applicants had general or specific environment or conservation background. Look forward to a closer relationship with the new planner. Support on the rest of the hiring committee for energy issues.
- 7) Former flea market committee will have one rep from CEC; Matt will be the point person, but if he can't attend all mtgs then Deirdre, Rebecca, or Suzy will go in his stead. There may be resources through Climate Catalyst program that Deirdre can tap to help move along a project.
- 8) Town solar
  - a) Analysis of 3 proposals submitted to town in response to its May RFP
    - i) The applicants were Green Lantern, Norwich, Bullrock (using a developer from PA)
    - ii) None is local—all are outside of Charlotte
    - iii) Contract durations between 20-25 yrs
    - iv) Discount rate varies 12-14% but adders and adjustments aren't all the same; we don't have enough information to compare to each other
    - v) Conclusion on proposals: suggest to the SB that if they want a professional analysis of the proposals they should hire Leigh Seddon. To the CEC each seems to be lacking in some key area.

- b) The preferable plan for moving the town to renewables might look different than this RFP. None of these proposals as written align well with the town plan and goals. If our goal was purely to reduce power bills and have a renewable portfolio then these would hold possibility, but local, in-town generation is the goal. The solution might appear to be patchwork and occur in pieces over time, starting with the most preferred and achievable and working out. The library roof would be an ideal next step; then local sites can be examined; and other possibilities such as the new salt shed roof, P&R canopy, and any opportunities that arise should be actively analyzed.
- c) CCRPC preferred sites analysis — Melanie Needle is creating a web map detailing potential preferred sites with no constraints, conserved land, etc., information which will help us work toward our town plan. If anyone has feedback on the draft maps for Melanie please let Matt know within a week. Matt will also share the maps with Jim Donovan.

9) Announcement of call with Peter Welsh on Friday noon.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rebecca Foster