

Energy Committee Minutes

September 11, 2018

7 PM

Charlotte Town Hall

In attendance: Matt Burke, Rebecca Foster, Suzy Hodgson, Deirdre Holmes, Bill Kallock, David Pill, John Quinney, Gerald Bouchard (PC liaison).

Review agenda

Welcome David Pill back to the committee!

Approval of 8/14/18 minutes

Announcements

- Trails Committee had a celebration of the Town Link Trail underpass. Suzy wondering if it is possible to gather any data about vehicle traffic the trail is preventing. Consensus is that kind of data not possible, but an anecdotal story written by her for the Charlotte News about how she enjoys using it might inspire others to use it.
- Rebecca will connect Suzy and Bud Shriner from the Transition Town group so that they can discuss ideas about local transportation.

Follow-up on to-dos from August mtg

- Website—Rebecca has investigated, has an understanding of what needs to be done, and will tackle a new layout when she has time, to be followed by a committee-wide discussion about how to populate that new layout with information.
- Button-Up—We have made a commitment to participate in Button-Up, which means we are committed to running at least one event/campaign. John's proposal is to run a campaign to get people who have installed heat pumps to upload their stories to the Dashboard. The campaign would have start and end dates, good incentives, and would seek the support of Energy Co-op, Vermont Energy, and Efficiency Vermont. If successful, it could be a model for subsequent campaigns. Rebecca to see if a Ben & Jerry's incentive is possible. Next year, John interested in exploring a weatherization campaign modeled after the Upper Valley success.
- Rebecca will look into the VW funds to Vermont for EV stations.

Act 174 Update

At the Planning Commission's September 20, 2018 meeting, energy planning will be discussed. Language is pretty much set now. After Emily (CCRPC) is done with final changes, the plan is for the document to be warned for the first hearing. The four new maps may not be ready by September 20, but they will be ready by the time the document is warned. Nobody from the EC is available to go to the meeting September 20. The PC's greatest concern has been creating a document that in their opinion can be passed. Matt will request from Emily a list of deleted items from our version of the document and send to the committee to review.

Budget

Discussion of 2019/2020 budget. Desire to include a line supporting the changed language regarding Act 174. Proposed budget to be discussed at October meeting. Defense of the budget before the Select Board on October 8 is expected to be attended by Rebecca, Suzy, Deirdre, and John.

Also, John suggests that at every meeting, or quarterly, we state where we are in the current year's budget.

Meetings

Upcoming meeting dates: October 3; November 7; December 5; January 2.

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Foster