

Charlotte Energy Committee Town Hall

March 7, 2017

7:10 pm – 8:15 pm

Suzy Hodgson, Bill Kallock, David Pill, Rebecca Foster, Catherine Hughes, Gerald Boucher, planning rep. Matt Burke joined by Skype.

Brief discussion of the minutes of previous meeting. Changes proposed by Matt and Bill were accepted, and the minutes were Approved.

John Quinney, potential new member, is waiting to hear from Dean regarding his appointment. (Your scribe has since learned that his meeting with the Select Board is scheduled for March 27) Another resident may be interested in joining the committee. Which is good, because Catherine noted that after 11 years (or more) on the Committee, she is taking a break. Her term is up in April. So there will be 1 vacancy on the Committee, assuming John is agreeable to the Select Board.

Dashboard update – David tried to log in to tell his story, but wasn't able to. Suzy was able to submit some information. Rebecca says we should be able to post as individuals and also as a Committee. Discussion about having a working session or a q and a at the upcoming Library event, March 21. Matt gave a brief introduction and said the Dashboard was generating some interest. Rob Fish, Field Coordinator usually just meets with Committees, but is reportedly willing to do more. Suzy leaned towards providing general awareness. So it will be a show and tell demonstration. Invitations going out to the Conservation Committee, Transition Town VT, FPF and Planning Commission, Select Board, Trails and Charlotte Land Trust.

Rebecca volunteered to put together an announcement about the event.

Climate Economy Model Communities Program – Matt noted that the application materials just came out and that the RFP is due in 2 weeks – March 22. The program, (which could use a catchier title) is supposed to describe core goals for climate economy and organizations that could champion them. Dean had already noted that the process seemed rushed, and that more work was needed to complete the application process. Matt said the program was ideally looking for two towns further along. There was discussion about potentially applying in the next grant cycle. It was suggested that Matt connect with folks like the VT Council on Rural Development. Matt suggested using questions from the process could help us fine tune the town plan. Matt said he would be reaching out to find out timelines for the future.

Our agenda is supposed to be posted on the Town Web Site. Minutes apparently have not been posted for some time. Rebecca volunteered to find out how to do that. And showed the Committee the new requisition forms from the Town Clerk's Office.

Catherine – through Jen Chiodo – suggested reviewing the Library records to see how effective the roof renovations have been. David will circulate the VT Green Building Network spreadsheet. Bill may help with the data gathering.

Catherine also updated the Committee about the solar light for the Town flagpole. She has just connected with the Fire Department about helping us with the task, and promised to follow up.

Gerald reported that they have gone through all the comments about the Town Plan. But his Board had questions, like “where is the Town now, in terms of renewable energy – are the goals do-able?” No one from the Energy Committee was at that meeting. The comments relating to Energy concerns, are now on line.

There was a brief discussion about meeting with the Regional Planning Commission. Matt said he would circulate dates. He also said the RPC should have some base line and target information by late April or early May.

Respectfully submitted: Catherine Hughes