

## Energy Committee Meeting

Weds, June 12 2013

7:00 – 8:30 PM

Town Hall

### Draft Minutes

In attendance: Suzy Hodgson, Jennifer Chiodo, Catherine Hughes, Rebecca Foster, Gerald Bouchard

- Minutes from May 8 approved with addition of CSWD rep to minutes

The energy committee does want to take steps to get the town buildings to energy neutrality. Our plan is to start with reducing consumption.

Efficiency is the lowest cost aspect of such a change. Therefore things like the windows in the town hall are critical; and things like the added cost of the sub-grade insulation might be considered in a different light in the future if the goal is a net zero town hall.

The Committee received a proposal for the library that would include looking at the steps necessary to get it to net zero and will discuss the proposal at tonight's meeting.

The Committee took a high level look at district systems which are not going to be cost effective at this time given energy efficiency imperatives.

Therefore, the focus will be on work with a pay back in a reasonable timeframe. Investing in the building efficiency and reducing their consumption significantly, will make the cost of moving them to net zero much smaller and the overall project will be more cost effective.

Behavior science approach is helpful to saving energy. CVU made great strides to achieving reductions through changing student and staff behavior.

The Committee agreed that efficiency comes first as it's more cost effective and can reduce the load that is needed by renewables.

However, given incentives and availability of leasing schemes, a twin track approach to renewables and efficiency may be practical. As land siting for PV has been problematic, consider roof mounts for town buildings as land - ACTION Rebecca to investigate

New student committee member ACTION – Suzy to check with Lily re:

Jennifer made a MOTION to recommend Root proposal for library assessment  
ACTION Jen & Catherine to follow up with library  
Rebecca seconded the MOTION  
MOTION approved with all in favor with David voting in absentia

EPA is upgrading portfolio manager and EPA recommended that we save all data. Our data is safe in spreadsheet.

Plan a work session for next meeting – July.

- Mini grant opportunity and Transition Town update - <http://www.vecan.net/index.php/transportation-grassroots-grants/>  
ACTION Rebecca to apply for grant
- Town Hall window update – The Selectboard approved the single hung triple glazed window based on our recommendation

The committee discussed the SB questions about siting renewable. There is some concern that density bonuses tend to favor developers. Committee agree that questions would be more open-ended and not divisive. Questions should engage people and enable them to express their opinions in own words and should not be too technical

ACTION Rebecca to look into having energy table at Town Party on July 6, and to check in with Transition Town re: their plans.

Energy committee consider developing questions for their table to get feedback from Charlotters.

July 10 next meeting Motion to take August break