

ENHANCED ENERGY PLANNING WORKING GROUP

NORWICH ENERGY COMMITTEE NORWICH PLANNING COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 8, 2019, Tracy Hall

Regular Meeting

Members Present: Lynnwood Andrews (Conservation Commission), Linda Gray (NEC Chair),
Melissa Horwitz (PC), Aaron Lamperti (NEC)

Others/Guests: Linda Cook (SB), Charlie Lindner (NEC volunteer, at 7:10)

Clerk: Linda Gray

Staff: Rod Francis

Linda Gray, of the Norwich Energy Commission, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

1. **Approve Agenda** - Approved by those present
2. **Comments from the Public** - None
3. **Minutes** – 12-4-18 – Approved by those present
4. **Announcements, Reports, Updates & Correspondence**
 - a. Linda Gray reported that she had investigated whether we could obtain useful transportation data from VT DMV. Now that inspections are reported electronically, data such as owner's town of residence, vehicle model, and odometer reading will be recorded. She spoke with Tom Moyer, at the Agency of Natural Resources/Dept of Environmental Conservation, who has arranged to get EV registration info each quarter from DMV. Moyer suggested making the inquiry with the DMV Commissioner's office, and he is interested in the answer we get. As far as he knows, this info has not been requested from DMV yet. Linda will pursue.
5. **Continued review of Act 174 Checklist and the current Town Plan Energy Chapter**
 - a. The focus of review was on Siting and Mapping.
 - i. Rod Francis prepared three maps:
 1. one prepared by Two Rivers Ottauquechee Planning Commission, showing sites with solar energy potential and a range of environmental constraints;
 2. one prepared by Rod showing Norwich's Ridgeline Protection Overlay District; and
 3. one prepared by Rod showing Norwich's Scenic Resource areas.
 - ii. Rod will ask TRORC to prepare a map that combines all the constraints shown in the 3 maps listed above, and perhaps the GMP "Solar Map" (showing Distributed Generation Circuit Capacity) <https://www.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=4eac2b58c4c4820b24c408a95ee8956>
 - b. At a regional meeting, Rod had learned of language drafted in the Town of Woodstock for their enhanced energy planning, in which they identify areas that they want to exclude from development. TRORC is OK with this approach, so Rod proposed that Norwich adopt it as well.

- i. Rod will obtain the Woodstock draft language for review at the February meeting. Linda noted that TRORC had given feedback to the Hartford energy chapter draft; she will recirculate that by email for discussion in February.
- c. Linda raised the question of whether small hydro should also be included in Norwich's siting and mapping for potential renewable generation. There was general skepticism that state regulators would approve any hydro project.
- d. Rod described the approach and timeline for the re-write of the entire Town Plan:
 - i. Planning Commission will look at other existing plans that are well-written;
 - ii. Planning Commission members initially will work in sub-groups on individual chapters;
 - iii. the Energy chapter re-write will come from this working group, with Melissa Horwitz as the Planning Commission member;
 - iv. energy topics that also fall in other chapters of the Town Plan (ex: transportation and land use) will be incorporating in the Energy chapter, even if that does mean duplication with the other chapters; and
 - v. we should have a draft ready by March, to share with TRORC for feedback.

6. Other Business

7. Future Meeting Schedule & Agenda Items

- a. February 5, 2019 at 7:00 PM
 - i. continued discussion of siting/mapping;
 - ii. review of Woodstock language; and
 - iii. data request from 12/2/18 meeting: a comparison of the # of residential units in the village area and the # of units outside the village

8. Comments from the Public - None

Adjournment: 8:40 PM

Linda Gray

APPROVED 2-5-19

Future Meetings:

Tuesday, February 5, 2019 – Regular Meeting at 7:00 PM

Enhanced Energy Planning Subcommittee Agendas & Minutes available at:

<http://norwich.vt.us/planning-commission/> and <http://norwich.vt.us/energy-committee/>