

ENHANCED ENERGY WORKING GROUP

NORWICH ENERGY COMMITTEE
NORWICH PLANNING COMMISSION
DRAFT Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 2, 2019, Tracy Hall

Regular Meeting

Members Present: Linda Gray (NEC Chair), Melissa Horwitz (Planning Commission), Aaron Lamperti (NEC), Charlie Lindner (NEC)
Public: Roger Arnold, Linda Cook (at 6:25)
Clerk: Linda Gray
Staff: Rod Francis

Linda Gray, of the Norwich Energy Commission, called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM

1. **Approve Agenda** - Approved by members present
2. **Comments from the Public** - None
3. **Minutes** – 3-20-19 – Approved by those present
4. **Announcements, Reports, Updates & Correspondence** –
 - a. Rod reported that the Planning Commission last week approved designating the Norwich Farmers Market location as a "preferred" site for solar (which aligns with the draft siting recommendation of the EEP Working Group) and it also reviewed the energy chapter draft (same version as the Working Group reviewed 3/20).
5. **Review of Draft Town Plan Energy Chapter**
 - a. Rod reviewed revisions that he made from comments at the 3/20 meeting. He hasn't yet added the various changes to Policies/Actions.
 - b. Linda shared and reviewed a version with multiple edits:
 - i. language to provide an overview of the Vermont/Norwich energy picture
 - ii. language to acknowledge limits to the Town's ability to influence energy policy and action by individuals BUT also highlight determination to do what it can
 - iii. new info from the GMP Solar Map that shows that the utility grid in Norwich can accommodate 10+ MW of distributed generation
 - iv. suggestions on some paragraphs to delete
 - c. Suggestions from the group:
 - i. add pie charts to show the overall picture of current energy use and the 2050 target
 - ii. answer the question, Will the grid in Norwich allow us to reach our energy goals?
 - iii. work on a different way to convey how much land would be needed for solar generation, to meet our target
 - iv. keep in mind (re actions) that the bottom-line goal is low carbon emissions (ie, larger houses can be OK if they rely on renewable energy)
 - v. participation in the Energy Dashboard might be a good Action to include
 - vi. language is needed to explain that actions by the whole community are crucial to meeting the energy targets
 - vii. a visual to show Town (ie, municipal government energy use vs total energy use in town (ie, Town, businesses, residents, etc) could highlight this
 - d. Rod will combine his version 2 and Linda's edits, and circulate a "version 3" to the group for review and one more meeting. After that, Working Group members will continue their input through Planning Commission meetings.
6. **Other Business**
7. **Future Meeting Schedule & Agenda Items**
 - a. May 7, 6 pm;

- i. continued discussion of the Draft Town Plan Energy Chapter;

8. Comments from the Public - None

Adjournment: 8:15 PM

Linda Gray

Future Meetings:

Tuesday, May 7, 2019 – Regular Meeting at 6:00 PM

Enhanced Energy Planning Subcommittee Agendas & Minutes available at:
<http://norwich.vt.us/planning-commission/> and <http://norwich.vt.us/energy-committee/>