Norwich Energy Committee meeting Tuesday, 3/24, 7 pm, Tracy Hall Minutes, submitted by Linda Gray

Attending: Linda Gray, Jamie Hess, Norm Levy

Agenda items:

- share "Toolkit" info and possible follow-up

Linda reported on training with Vital Communities on a "Strategic Energy Action Toolkit" designed for energy committees. She will send a "doodle poll" to identify a date when all NEC members can meet for pizza and to go through some parts of the Toolkit.

- legislative updates...

H. 40 (RESET bill)

The House recently voted overwhelmingly to approve RESET, the <u>Renewable Energy Standard and Energy Transformation</u> <u>Program (H.40)</u>. H.40 is a critical piece of energy legislation that would put Vermont in line with 29 other states by setting clear targets for renewable energy in the state. (For more about RESET, click <u>here</u>.) VtDigger article: http://vtdigger.org/2015/03/10/house-approves-major-renewable-energy-overhaul/

NET-METERING

Last year, the legislature passed a bill to revise net-metering through 2017, and to set a schedule for the Public Service Dept and Board to set net-metering rules for post-2017. Here's a summary: <u>http://www.greenenergytimes.net/2014/04/04/net-metering-summary-house-bill-702/</u> NEC may want to participate in some upcoming PSD workshops.

ENERGY SITING

A link to all the House-sponsored siting bills introduced <u>here</u>. At bottom of this list you will also find a few useful summary documents, including an overview/comparison of the different bills and the process around siting. NEC comments submitted for the 3/24

hearing: http://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/document/2016/30/Date/3-25-2015.

- Weatherize activities

set up home audit info table at D&W outside, when the weather is milder.

- plan for May-Jun Solarize campaign

further discussion about option of customer discount and/or charitable contribution; one question to answer = who gets to take charitable contribution?

plan is to continue w/ info activities at D&W and at dump

Revels director emailed that she would check w board re NEC having Solarize info table at Revels Solstice event (6/20); no answer yet, Linda will remind

encourage new solar homeowners to "show off" to neighbors

collect summaries of savings from established solar homeowners, post to list serv then to NEC web site

- update on NEC membership, energy events, solar outreach to businesses

Rob Sydney's application may be postponed from 3/25 SB meeting, since he is away; Meghan Wilson's application arrived after 3/19 deadline, will be acted on at a later SB mtg

Events = 3/31 Thetford forum on community solar - 6:30 pm, Thetford Academy

4/8 Hartford/Norwich/Woodstock forum on community solar - 6:30 pm, Montshire

4/28 UV Energy Committees Roundtable, Montshire

4/30 Ice Cores, Climate and Your Wallet - 7 pm, Howe Library WITH NORWICH RESIDENT MARY ALBERT

5/6 Cold Climate heat Pump Workshop - 6:30 pm, Montshire

Norm Levy has been contacting various businesses in the area (not just Norwich) about hosting solar installations developed by a 3rd party. There is good initial interest.