

Meeting of the Norwich Energy Committee
Tuesday, 6/28/22, 7 pm, via Zoom

Attending: Linda Gray, Aaron Lamperti (7:10), Norm Levy, Charlie Lindner, Brad Wible
Guest: Rob Gere

1. The 5/31 minutes and 6/28 agenda were approved by consensus.

2. Updates on existing projects

A. Electrify Everything: in-person outreach at the transfer station 6/18 went well, with 3 EVs, 2 e-bikes, and 1 e-mower displayed, and detailed conversations with ~20 people. Discussion about current availability of EVs; Linda will contact Drive Electric VT for an update.

Charlie has arranged for outreach at Dan & Whits on 7/23, 10-1, focusing on weatherization. He will receive an event kit from Efficiency VT, other materials can be printed from an online link, and Linda has a variety of printed pieces from previous years but still useful. Linda will get 2022 pricing to update our Solarize web pages and ask for printed materials too.

B. Window Dressers: Linda reported that, with a goal of 250 total inserts, we have orders for about 160, expect about 50 “special rate” orders from Thetford, leaving room for about 50 new orders (then, begin a waitlist). The shop-built inserts have been delivered. Measuring visits are underway. The Community Build will take place 10/14-20, at the church on Dartmouth campus

C. Energy Coordinator Committee report

- Linda reported that Geoff Martin is drafting recommendations to the Planning Commission on energy-related provisions for the Town’s revised land-use regulations (ex: require new construction to be EV- and solar-ready, built to stretch energy codes, certified for occupancy).
 - Geoff has been working with Town Manager Rod Francis on heating options for Tracy Hall, but it’s not certain how that fits in with the broader space analysis for the building.
 - Geoff keeps up monthly with the net-meter allocations to the Town’s GMP accounts
 - Geoff will monitor the rules, incentives, applications, other details for newly-funded programs
- <https://vecan.net/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/End-of-Session-Summary-Resources-1.pdf>

There was discussion again about possible failure of an oil boiler at Tracy Hall; agreement that other options should be pursued instead of any further investment in fossil fuel equipment.

Norm asked about the results of the trial that Geoff arranged for Norwich DPW of a commercial-grade electric mower. Linda will ask about this at her meeting with Geoff next week; Rob has heard that staff feel it might not meet their needs. He suggested that the Climate Emergency Fund might be used to purchase an appropriate electric mower. If another town proceeds, arranging for Norwich staff to talk with them could be helpful.

D. UVTMA report: Norm reported that electric buses are coming available in about a year for area transit operations.

E. Huntley solar canopy: Linda will ask Geoff at their meeting next week.
Norwich Farmer’s Market solar canopy: no further word from the Co-op.

F. Memo to SB regarding A36TF recommendations: agreement that Aaron should send the memo.

3. Other business, new projects, announcements:

G. Climate stripes in town: discussion about using climate stripes in conjunction with future events – in chalk on sidewalks, painted on a driveway, via painter’s tape on the CITGO pole. Working with a group at MCS would be ideal.

4. Public comment and correspondence: None.

5. Adjourned at 8:05

The fourth Tuesday in July will be 7/26.

submitted by Linda Gray