

Meeting of the Norwich Energy Committee
Tuesday, 10/25/22, 7 pm, via Zoom

Attending: Linda Gray, Garret Heaton, Norm Levy, Charlie Lindner, Erich Rentz, Brad Wible (7:10),
Eva Rosenbloom (7:25)

1. The 9/27 minutes and 10/25 agenda were approved by consensus.
2. Garret Heaton and Eva Rosenbloom have been appointed by the Selectboard to fill committee vacancies.

3. Updates on existing projects

A. Electrify Everything: the committee did outreach on 10/22 at the transfer station, with good traffic and success in providing information to residents. Discussion on promoting home energy audits and EVT's virtual energy visits; preparing a printout of local contacts from EVT's list of certified contractors; linking to Vital Communities' web page on weatherization.

Charlie will contact Dan Fraser about outreach at D&W on 11/19 and will continue with posts. Charlie noted that VLS is hosting a webinar 10/26 on the Inflation Reduction Act and provisions benefiting municipalities and non-profits.

B. Window Dressers: The Community Build was completed successfully with more than 200 volunteers, 279 inserts were provided to area residents. A reporter and photographer from the Christian Science Monitor spent most of a morning at the Build; an article forthcoming.

C. Button Up VT: this campaign winds up at the end of the month; the 10/22 outreach was the committee's main activity, in addition to posts about Button Up webinars.

D. Energy Coordinator (IREC) report

Linda reported that Geoff Martin's recent Norwich-specific work includes

- following up on problems with the EV charger at Dan & Whit's (they may replace the station);
- working with energy consultant Marcus Jones on energy reviews of and recommendations for Tracy Hall and the DPW building, to be presented to the Selectboard;
- Two groups following up on actions prioritized for multi-town collaboration: Climate Action Guidelines / Pledge (a version of our Electrify Everything activities) and Residential Building Energy Standards. Each is meeting next on 11/4; contact Linda for specifics;
- reviewing the Town's Capital Improvement Plan spreadsheets through an emissions lens, adding information to highlight choices that impact fossil fuel use.

D. UVTMA report: no report; the next meeting is 10/27.

E. Updates on A36 items: none.

4. Other business, new projects

Discussion of the Tracy Hall oil boilers and their possible replacement. Discussion centered on how the committee might support select board efforts in finding suitable replacements aligned with Article 36.

Charlie confirmed that, at our November meeting, the agenda would include discussion about future activities, for the two main elements of the committee charge: with residents' energy use and for Town energy policies

5. Public comment and correspondence: none.

6. Adjourned at 8:15.

The fourth Tuesday in November will be 11/22.

submitted by Linda Gray