

Meeting of the Norwich Energy Committee
Tuesday, 2/23, 7 pm, Tracy Hall

Attending: Jamie Hess, Linda Gray, Suzanne Leiter, Norm Levy, Rob Sydney

Discussion of item on Select Board agenda for 2/24, asking Town to support Rutland Town's resolution seeking more town involvement in solar siting process. Consensus that the committee recommends that the Select Board not support, because legislation passed last spring provides for "party status" for towns in energy siting process. Linda will attend the 2/24 meeting to speak on this.

Updates:

- LED bulb exchange: 414 bulbs distributed via community swap, MCS swap, and door-to-door visits at Norwich Senior Housing; 40+ sign-ups for "home energy visits" with AmeriCorps member, many home efficiency conversations, other info materials distributed
- Linda and Norm in contact with Twin Pines Housing Trust about supporting home energy audits and follow-up work with TPHT homeowners, particularly Starlake Village in Norwich
- new proposed rules for net-metering are out; available at <http://psb.vermont.gov/sites/psb/files/docketsandprojects/electric/Rule51002016/Draft5.100SenttoICAR%202-29-26.pdf> There will be a public hearing to take feedback, but it has not been scheduled yet. It is important for NEC to track the progress and changes to the rules, to explain during the 2016 Solarize campaign.
- Linda and Norm attended a workshop explaining an online "community dashboard" being developed by the Energy Action Network <http://eanvt.org/community-energy-dashboard/>. It will be piloted with 6 towns soon, then available (in summer?) for other towns.
- GMP and Efficiency VT are offering a program for former CVPS customers, "Zero Energy Now," which adds \$5000 to the existing \$2000 in possible incentives, for weatherization, heat pumps, solar. There are a small number of former CVPS customers in Norwich; Linda will ID them to share the program info.
- EV charging station: the easement agreement between the Town and D&W is being finalized; once completed, an RFB for the electrical installation can be issued and installation can progress.
- Norm reported that the Fire District Prudential Committee is now open to consideration of a solar project on their land near Route 5. Staff from Norwich Technologies will walk the site with Fire District staff, so that a site-specific proposal can be developed.
- Linda was asked to submit an article on solar for the Norwich Times, for the next issue

Discussion of plans for 2016 Solarize rescheduled to March 22, due to schedule conflicts for Solaflect staff.

submitted by Linda Gray