

Norwich Energy Committee meeting agenda for 2/28/2023

The next meeting of the Norwich Energy Committee is Tuesday, 2/28/2023 at 7 pm, via

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88910577199>

Meeting ID 889 1057 7199 US Toll-free 833 548 0276 US Toll-free

Contact in case of access issues: Linda Gray (802-649-2032), linda.c.gray@gmail.com

Agenda:

1. Review and Approve 1/24/2023 minutes and this agenda
2. Updates on Existing Activities

Eat Low and Local Campaign

Narrative prompts for various topics. Brad and Garret

Local contractor availability project

Carbon "Handprint" information. Eva

GMP Solar program for low-income customers: Garret and Erich

Solar campaign begins in March: posts (with solar narratives), the Energize UV event, other?

Energize UV 4/1 event: 11-3 PM at the Listen Center (WRJ) and Hartford Town Hall

The following will have tables and representatives at the Listen Center:

- SameSun
- Catamount Solar
- Solaflect
- Norwich Solar
- Vital Communities
- Dartmouth Energy Alliance // Dartmouth Energy Justice Clinic
- Lebanon Energy Action Committee
- VECAN
- VAL Training Program
- SEVCA

- Efficiency Vermont
- Cover Home Repair

They will also have Linda Gray and Marlene Allen prepared to discuss EVs at a round table discussion and Esme Cole and Becca White talking about state-level climate initiatives.

They also want find a few more folks who are prepared to answer questions, particularly about the IRA. Charlie is signed up to do that for 1-2 hours...others?

3. IREC Report (Energy Coordinator)
4. UVTMA representative for NEC
5. Other Business, new projects
 - Norwich Historical Preservation Commission meeting 3/24 to discuss clean energy efficiency historical buildings, possible joint projects. Charlie and Linda will attend (others?)
 - other?

6. Public comments and correspondence:

-Green Driving America correspondence

Dear Charlie,

I am executive director of [Green Driving America Inc.](#) (GDA), a 501c3 nonprofit grassroots organization based in California with a branch location in Hyde Park, Vermont (GDA was founded as [Idle-Free VT](#) in Vermont in 2006). We advocate for clean transportation and transportation efficiency, specializing on education in the school community. The main portion of our operation and funding is currently in Vermont.

In January, as a member of Sacramento Friends Meeting (Quakers) in Calif., I gave a 30-minute Zoom PowerPoint and video presentation for meeting members: "[Considering Electric Vehicles](#)"*: The Environmental, Energy, Health and Financial Impacts of Switching to an Electric Vehicle or Keeping an Internal Combustion Engine Vehicle." It was very well received!

Thanks to funding by the Vermont Council on Rural Development's [Climate Catalysts Innovation Fund](#), and a foundation (which wishes to remain anonymous) located in Grafton County, New Hampshire, GDA is able to offer [The Clean Transportation Path](#) project in Vermont and in the Upper Valley (VT and NH). This project is working with high school STEM and driver educators to give guest-speaking virtual classroom presentations featuring the benefits of low- to zero-emission vehicles, conducted by our trained college level interns from Dartmouth College and University of Vermont. ***The Clean Transportation Path presentation is endorsed by Drive Electric Vermont.***

The Upper Valley funding also allows for us to give related presentations, such as the "Considering Electric Vehicles" Zoom presentation above, for potentially interested

Upper Valley venues. **I would like to offer to give this funded presentation** (with minor edits to the PowerPoint) **virtually, to the Norwich Energy Committee, and/or Upper Valley entities that the committee would recommend.** Also included in the presentation is a PDF handout—attached—on the benefits of low- to zero-emission vehicles and “smart” driving practices in a gas vehicle, as well as a listing of links to items covered in the presentation.

*This presentation is meant to show audiences—who might be skeptical of EVs from the aspects of the detrimental impacts of battery production and their end-of-life, and the overall costs of EVs vs ICEVs—how EVs are better. Edits to this presentation for Vermont audiences would include Vermont’s added incentives for used EVs such as MileageSmart and Replace Your Ride, and ways that the nation’s electric grid will be able to accommodate EVs, including Vehicle-to-Grid (V2G) technology

Thank you for your consideration.

Wayne

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Jack Cushman email about Toro electric mower:

Hi, Charlie,

You may recall that when the Selectboard and Town Manager purchased an internal combustion commercial mower for DPW use, the SB required that this spring we start testing available electric versions with the goal of swapping out for a zero-emissions mower as soon as possible. There’s a history of testing etc. behind this. The goal was to avoid locking in emissions for the lifetime of the new machine.

To satisfy the town, it has to be a seated, zero-turn type commercial mower capable of working up to a full day at a time.

I believe Toro has come out with a new model that would meet this requirement.

Whether it is available at dealers yet, I don't know, but Toro may have floor models suitable for testing, or info on field tests already conducted elsewhere.

Would it be possible for the energy committee to kick the tires on this, and kickstart some action?

<https://opereviews.com/toro-revolution-battery-powered-zero-turn-lawn-mowers/>

Cheers

Jack

7. Adjourn