

Meeting of the Norwich Energy Committee Tuesday, 9/27, 7 pm, Tracy Hall

Attending: Linda Gray, Suzanne Leiter, Norm Levy, Rob Sydney, Bob Walker (Thetford Energy Committee)

- guest Bob Walker described a Thetford project, Volunteer Assisted Weatherization (individual home weatherization for lower-income households). Discussion about whether and how to implement in Norwich; agreement that we could apply to the Norwich Women's Club for funding, and for committee members to brainstorm re residents with appropriate skills who might be recruited as project volunteers.

- discussion of the Norwich application for Vital Communities Weatherize Upper Valley campaign: confirmed that Norwich Energy Committee will apply in a team made up of Thetford, Hartford, and Hartland. The deadline is 10/3. Linda has obtained the required Municipal Representative signature from the Interim Town Manager and will work with the Thetford, Hartford, and Hartland committee chairs to complete the application.

- NEC project updates

...EV charging station: ALMOST complete, waiting on a part for finishing the installation. Educational signage still to be done.

...Solarize: the annual goal of 36 households going solar has been met again, a few more likely before the end of the year

...LED/audit work funded by Norwich Women's Club: Norm has worked with Twin Pines Housing Trust to identify Star Lake village residents interested in home energy improvements and they are now in touch; Norm is also arranging to provide LED bulbs to UV Haven clients, and sharing info with other energy committees on how to help Vt Foodbank network members to order and distribute free LEDs

- future events: a forum on the draft Regional Energy Implementation Plan, 9/29, 6:30-8:30 pm at the Hartford Town Office, in White River Junction; Vt Department of Public Service will host a public hearing on the Draft Energy Planning standards and gather feedback in Randolph on October 11.

- other

...the proposed new building for the police and fire departments has been planned by the architect as Net-Zero Energy

...SunCommon (as a partner w/ GMP) has proposed working with NEC on a public presentation about solar and the Tesla PowerWall. Discussion about whether there is broad interest/need for this in-home battery, details of SunCommon's presentation, how this relates to future Solarize campaigns. Agreement for Linda to invite SunCommon contact to a future NEC meeting, and to contact our current Solarize partners to inquire if they are considering working with GMP on the PowerWall.

Next regular meeting: Tuesday, 10/28.

submitted by Linda Gray