

Meeting of the Norwich Energy Committee Thursday, 12/21, 7 pm, Tracy Hall

Attending: Linda Gray, Jonathan Teller-Elsberg

Guests: Luke Boyden, Jaci Allen

Discussion/updates:

- Vt Climate Pledge Coalition: a resolution was presented to the Planning Commission on 12/14. The resolution if adopted by the Selectboard would have the Town of Norwich join the Vt Climate Pledge Coalition. The Commission will take it up at their next meeting, on 1/11. The Norwich Conservation Commission has already agreed to join the NEC in recommending that the Selectboard join this Coalition.

- Jaci Allen from the Planning Commission explained that the Planning Commission would like to hear, in small-group settings, from different groups on their views about housing in Norwich. The scheduling discussion targeted the NEC's regular meeting in February (2/27), as the best bet for good attendance. It was agreed that 30 minutes would likely be needed for regular business, then the rest of the meeting could be devoted to this "listening session."

- Enhanced Energy planning with TRORC: the first meeting was 12/5, the next will be Tuesday, 1/2. Minutes from 12/5 and the agenda for 1/2 are at <http://norwich.vt.us/energy-committee/> (scroll all the way down). Review the current draft Town Plan prior to the next meeting, at <http://norwich.vt.us/2017-town-plan-documents-Selectboard-Draft/>.

- Weatherize 2018: 3 contractors from 2017 have agreed to work with us again (providing free quotes) for 2018: Building Energy, Van de Van Construction, and Vt Foam. Solsaa has not responded to 2 emails. A resident who recently worked w/ Murphy's Cell-Tech of St. Johnsbury contacted Linda to recommend this firm. [www.murphyscelltech.com](http://www.murphyscelltech.com) Linda will ask Vital Communities staff for details on the questions they used last year to vet the contractors, and pursue this with Murphy's Cell-Tech

Agreement to pursue collaboration with the Norwich Historical Society on their talk 1/21 "Energy Retrofits for Old Houses." Goal would be to help publicize the talk and to be able to give Weatherize flyers to attendees. Linda will email NHS to follow up.

- Regarding whether to recommend programs that offer clean electricity through the purchase of RECs to Norwich residents who can't directly install solar, Norm reported via email: the purchase of RECs is not valuable enough to influence anything; NEC shouldn't recommend to residents.

- Other: Linda reported an email contact from Peck Solar in S. Burlington, seeking to work with NEC in promoting solar to Norwich residents. Agreement to respond that the NEC would be deciding in the spring about another Solarize campaign.

Next Norwich Energy Committee meeting on Tuesday, 1/23.

submitted by Linda Gray