

Meeting of the Norwich Energy Committee Tuesday, 3.27, 7 pm, Tracy Hall

Attending: Linda Gray, Susan Hardy, Aaron Lamperti (7:25), Suzanne Leiter, Norm Levy
Guests: Jack Cushman, Rob Gere

Updates:

* the 2nd round of Weatherize in 2018 generated 12 contacts through listserv posts alone (close to our expectation); Linda will follow up with homeowners as their site visits are completed.

* enhanced energy planning with TRORC (next meeting = 4/3/18)

* "preferred site" designation for Fire District solar project will be on the agenda of the 3/28 Selectboard meeting. The site is on the preferred-site list in the draft Town Plan, but project developers want to complete the permit application sooner than the Town Plan is likely to be approved. So we are asking the SB, Planning Commission and TRORC to designate the site via letter.

* Linda and Town staff met with an Efficiency VT staff person to review the 2011 energy audit of Tracy Hall. One of the recommendations is to replace the 8 halide lights in the gym; EVT rebates for these fixtures will be significantly less as of 4/15, so we are seeking quotes on this particular item in hope of being able to purchase the more-efficient fixtures before they become more expensive.

Discussion of possible projects for next 12 months generated this list:

-transportation (including upcoming conf in WRJ <https://vtwalkbikesummit.com/>)

-Tracy Hall energy improvements

-composting/recycling

-Repair Cafe <https://www.sevendaysvt.com/vermont/repair-cafes-aim-to-save-broken-items-enhance-community/Content?oid=10441877>

-solar sites

-signage for solar awning

-education: Utility 101 ... energy financing ... regular mtgs of area energy committees

-storage-ize

-Solarize

-Weatherize

-LEDs

-modern wood heat <https://northernforest.org/>

-"Dandelion" initiative on affordable geothermal heating

<https://insideclimatenews.org/news/11022018/geothermal-heat-pump-infographic-google-startup-dandelion-tax-breaks-low-emissions-hvac>

At our April meeting we will continue this discussion with the aim of setting priorities and figuring out who will work on them.

The next Enhanced Energy Workgroup meeting is Tuesday, 4/3, 7 pm, Tracy Hall; the next Norwich Energy Committee meeting is on Tuesday, 4/24, 7 pm, Tracy Hall.

submitted by Linda Gray