

ENHANCED ENERGY PLANNING WORKING GROUP

NORWICH ENERGY COMMITTEE NORWICH PLANNING COMMISSION

DRAFT Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 3, 2018, Tracy Hall

Regular Meeting

Members Present: Linda Gray (NEC Chair), Chris Damiani (TRORC), Susan Hardy (NEC), Norm Levy (NEC), Jaci Allen (PC Member), Aaron Lamperti (NEC), and Bob Gere (NEC)

Clerk: Phil Dechert **Others/Guests**

Linda Gray, of the Norwich Energy Commission, called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

1. **Agenda Approved**
2. **Comments from the Public** - None
3. **Minutes** – 3-15-18 Regular Meeting minutes were approved unanimously
4. **Announcements, Reports, Updates & Correspondence** - None
5. **Reports related to energy information in current Town Plan as it relates to the standards of Act 174 Checklist:**
 - a. Data analysis and targets: Chris Damiani will have for the May 1st meeting a draft that incorporates comments from the 3/15 meeting
 - b. Pathways: Determining “preferred sites”
 - i. Discussion started from the consensus that the state permitting process thoroughly covers environmental issues, and that the Town should address aesthetic issues. The group reviewed existing language in Town Zoning and Subdivision Regulations that protects ridgelines and scenic resources. These protections focus on protecting aesthetics from public vantage points (rather than private property). The group would like to understand the permitting process better; Linda will contact Vt Dept of Public Service staff, and we will invite Troy McBride of Norwich Solar Tech to the next meeting to walk us through it based on his company's experience.
 - ii. Identify “preferred sites” or identify non-preferred sites and the remainder will be preferred:
 1. Town non-preferred
 - a. Ridgeline Areas – visual impact from town roads (See Ridgeline map and section in zoning)
 - b. Scenic Corridors – See Scenic Resource Area Map and Section 3.3(I) in the Norwich Subdivision Regulations
 - c. Note: Both above will require visual impact analysis and Town findings
 2. State non-preferred Criteria
 - a. Ag soils, wetlands, wildlife, flood areas, etc. based on Act 250 Natural Resource criteria as listed in 248

b. Next Step - Chris Damiani will research these concepts for compliance with Act 174

6. Other Business – None

7. Future Meeting Schedule & Agenda Items

- a. Tuesday, May 1, 2018 – Regular Meeting at 7:00 PM
- b. Continued review of Act 174 Checklist and the current Town Plan

8. Comments from the Public

Adjournment: 9:03 PM

Phil Dechert, Clerk

Future Meetings:

Tuesday, May 1, 2018 – Regular Meeting at 7:00 PM

Enhanced Energy Planning Subcommittee Agendas & Minutes available at:

<http://norwich.vt.us/planning-commission/> and <http://norwich.vt.us/energy-committee/>