

NEC minutes 06-28-2018

Attending: NEC members: Norman Levy, Suzanne Leiter, Susan Hardy

Non-member attendees: John Cushman, Ham Gillette, David Lutz

1. Battery recycling at the Norwich Transfer Station-Ham Gillette, Outreach Coordinator for the Greater Upper Valley Solid Waste Management District attended the meeting to request that the Norwich Energy Committee assist Transfer Station employees in the proper disposal of batteries brought to the transfer station. This required distinction between different types of batteries, proper packing the different types of batteries according to prescribed methods, and shipping by Fedex to regional distribution centers. NEC responsibilities would likely require 1-2 hours of work twice monthly. All attending members voted to take on the task. We will meet with Transfer Station employees to coordinate this effort, and Ham Gillette is available for onsite training, if deemed necessary.

Approved: 3-0

2. NEC participation in this year's July 21 Norwich Day Parade- all members present felt it would be good to participate, and discussed how we could. Dave Lutz of Solaflect stated that Solaflect would participate with a vehicle upon which we could possibly post NEC signage, and members could follow behind with additional banners. We will also determine whether Norwich Technologies will attend, as they did last year.

Approved: 3-0

3. Should the NEC pursue obtaining another EV charging station for Norwich-The State of Vermont

[Agency of Commerce and Community Development](#) will soon be offering grants to expand the Vermont's network of Electrical Vehicle Charging Stations as part of the Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation settlement. These grants will not require matching funds for publicly accessible equipment located on government owned property. Possible sites discussed include the Huntley Meadow parking lot, where many parents park during sporting events, and which is also an AT bus stop. The grant application would be a joint effort of the NEC and the Town Manager, and would require Town concurrence to proceed. All members felt this was an effort worth pursuing, and Linda Gray was volunteered to pursue this further with the Town Manager.

Approved: 3-0

4. Status and Planning for ongoing projects

A. Transportation: Susan Hardy-To expand our knowledge base of regional efforts that might be useful to Norwich, Susan joined and attended meetings of Vital Communities' Upper Valley Transportation Management Association (UVTMA), a membership-based group of workplaces, transportation providers, municipalities, and planners focussing on transportation efficiency and enhanced use of non-polluting transportation vehicles. She also attended the May 4th 2018 Vermont Walk/Bike Summit in White River Junction.

B. 2018-2019 Solarize campaign-Suzanne Leiter and Linda Gray-we will have a campaign that will begin at the end of summer and continue through fall. Solaflect and and Norwich Technologies will collaborate. We will likely repeat past efforts at the Transfer Station and Dan and Whit's, but are brainstorming new initiatives. Suzanne will confirm D and W's willingness to use their parking lot.

C. Weatherize Norwich-Rob Gere. Rob was not present

D. Tracy Hall Energy Improvements: Aaron Lamperti-Aaron was not present. Materials from prior audits of recommended Tracy Hall energy upgrades were collected by Linda Gray, and will be provided to Aaron. Aaron will then meet with the Town Manager.

E. Signage for Solar Awning/EV charging station: Jack Cushman-Jack will pursue the cost and format of signage that will increase the awareness of the EV charging station in the Dan and Whit's parking lot.

F. Utilities 101: Norm Levy-solicitations for assistance in planning such a seminar were submitted to Joanna Miller of VECAN, Geoff Martin, the Hartford Energy Coordinator and Sarah Brock, the Energy Coordinator at Vital Communities. Responses have not been received to date.

Announcements:

1. Selectboard meeting 6/27- two items relating to the NEC would be discussed at the meeting:

A. An updated Town Charge for the Energy Committee

B. A discussion of energy issues in response to a series of questions submitted to the Select Board by Charlotte Metcalf. Questions relate to the Enhanced Energy Plan, solar siting, regulatory authority, and several others. John Langhus and Linda Gray prepared answers to Ms. Metcalf's questions, and they will be discussed by the Select Board.

Copies of documents submitted to the board were provided to NEC members, and they were encouraged to attend the Select Board meeting

2. Documentary film, [\*BURNED are Trees the New Coal\*](#) will be shown July 24th in Woodstock. We were initially solicited to identify a Norwich site for showing, and act as co-host, but that request was rescinded.

3. Grant award-The NEC was awarded \$1200 by the Norwich Woman's Club to continue our efforts at promoting LED usage, and providing bulbs at no charge to non-profits servicing Low income communities.

4. The next meeting of the Enhanced Energy Plan Committee is scheduled for July 17, 2018 in the Tracy Hall Conference Room.

Minutes submitted by Norman Levy