

Meeting of the Norwich Energy Committee Tuesday, 9/18, 7 pm, Tracy Hall

Attending: Rob Gere, Norm Levy

(Linda Gray, Suzanne Leiter, Jonathan Teller-Elsberg had a conflict with a BCA meeting; Susan Hardy, Aaron Lamperti had other conflicts)

With so few members in attendance, Rob and Norm reviewed a summary of committee activity:

- * Battery recycling: Norm Levy and Jack Cushman packaged the backlog of batteries; Transfer Station staff is planning to handle ongoing work.
- * Solarize: 7th campaign; 16 households/churches added solar so far in 2018; 12 households received PUC permits (“CPGs”) under pre-July 2018 rules, with solar purchases still to come; 37 prospects identified via NEC outreach efforts. NEC active outreach ends 9/30, follow-up contacts with prospects in October.
- * Transportation: Susan Hardy met with Vital Communities staff and generated ideas to promote biking, walking, and busing. Susan will continue to participate in the monthly meetings of the UV Transportation Management Association.
- * Weatherize: NEC will work with Efficiency Vermont (EVT) in October-December on the “Button Up Hero” program (modeled on the 2017 program NEC worked on with Vital Communities). NEC will host a kick-off event, staff outreach info tables, and follow up with homeowners.
- * Tracy Hall energy improvements: Linda Gray and Aaron Lamperti met with EVT staff to review the 2010 building audit. EVT staff recommended two near-term actions: 1) arrange for an updated audit, focused on evaluating the feasibility of undertaking a "deep energy retrofit" (which would aim to reduce building energy use by 50%) and 2) begin utilizing the Energy Star Portfolio Manager for all town buildings. With the Town Manager's approval, Aaron is getting a quote on the audit and learning how to use the Portfolio Manager program.
- * EV Charging Stations: Linda Gray and the Town Manager reviewed the application guidelines for new state funding for EV charging stations. The grant would provide 90% funding for stations installed on town- or school-owned sites. They will pursue the feasibility of applying for charging stations at the park-and-ride lot at Huntley Meadow and at MCS. The application deadline for Round 1 is November 30, 2018; for Round 2, April 30, 2019.
- * “Utilities 101”: NEC has organized a discussion on utilities, the grid, and how renewable projects fit in, with David Farnsworth of the Regulatory Assistance Project as the speaker. We have invited members of other town energy committees to attend. The discussion is scheduled for Thursday, 10/4, 7 pm, at the Norwich Library.

Upcoming events:

Monday, September 24 at 2:00 pm

A deep dive into recent reports on the pace of Vermont's clean energy transition, challenges, and opportunities ahead with Renewable Energy VT and Energy Action Network [click here](#) to register and receive a link to join

Monday, September 24, 5-8 pm

Energy Burden Volunteer Advocate Training

Many families struggle to keep the lights on or their homes heated, especially in the winter.

Learn more about what YOU can do to help your neighbors who are dealing with the Energy Burden!

Mayer Room, Howe Library, Hanover, NH (light dinner will be provided)

Please RSVP by Wednesday, September 19! Contact programs@listencs.org if you have any thoughts or questions.

Public Forums on a Cost and Benefit Analysis of Policies to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions in Vermont.

Two public forums are scheduled to gain an understanding of Vermonters' interests and concerns regarding policies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Vermont. Resources for the Future has been contracted by the VT legislature to study policies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Vermont. The information from these public forums will inform their study. The general public is invited to participate in these two public forums, 5:00 to 6:30 p.m.:

- Wednesday September 26, Room 11, Vermont State House, 115 State Street, Montpelier, VT.
- Thursday, September 27, Theater room, Billings Farm, 69 Old River Road, Woodstock, VT.

Please RSVP here <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XF98YTJ>

The next Enhanced Energy Workgroup meeting is Tuesday, 10/2, 7 pm, Tracy Hall; the next Norwich Energy Committee meeting is on Tuesday, 10/23, 7 pm, Tracy Hall.

submitted by Linda Gray