

Meeting of the Norwich Energy Committee Tuesday, 2/19, 7 pm, Tracy Hall

Attending: Rob Gere, Linda Gray, Suzanne Leiter, Norm Levy

Re Transportation, Susan Hardy continues to post weekly on the listserv about using Advance Transit, and will meet with Lucinda Walker re library bike racks and repair kit and with Patrick O'Neill, Dartmouth transportation, re Zagster. She has arranged with Vital Communities staff for posters and handouts for NEC to have at a table for the discussion part of Town Meeting on Monday 3/4.

Re Tracy Hall energy review, Aaron is away, Linda reported that they will meet with a performance contractor on 3/15. By email Jack Cushman suggested investigating whether the school's potential need to re-do its septic system might mesh with installing horizontal-loop ground-source heat pumps for public buildings around the Green. Linda has contacted principal Bill Hammond to raise this topic for Board discussion, and will include it in the review with the Tracy Hall performance contractor.

Re Weatherize, Linda emailed homeowners who don't yet have walk-throughs scheduled (according to the EVT list). This generated 12+ names who needed follow-up contacts, which were initiated. Walk-throughs are being scheduled now for April; homeowners are being patient.

Re Solarize, Linda proposed that our Solarize contractors participate in the March (or April) meeting to discuss a 2019 Solarize campaign for August-Sept-October. She and Norm are meeting first with each contractor.

At their meeting with Troy McBride at Norwich Solar Tech they discussed whether either of their permitted Norwich sites would be available for individual households. The Cook site (along Union Village Road) could be if 20 or so households sign up by mid-April. Linda can email to solar prospects from earlier years, can post to the list serv, and Troy can give a Q/A presentation 3/14. There was consensus to proceed.

Linda and Norm will aim to meet with Solaflect staff prior to the committee meeting.

Re Articles 36-37-38, discussion was that these non-binding items (steady municipal reduction of direct fossil fuel use, local climate change as the theme of the Town Plan, and beginning work on commuter trails) are aligned with the committee's work and goals, and that it would aid the committee's work if they passed. Discussion about whether it's appropriate for the committee to officially endorse them; in the event that it is, Rob Gere moved, Suzanne Leiter seconded that the NEC support these three articles. Approved 4-0. Linda will check with the Town Manager about further public action by the NEC.

Other business:

- reminder that the next Enhanced Energy Planning Working Group meeting is 3/12, 7 pm
- the grant application to install an EV charging station at the Huntley park-n-ride was successful; Linda is working with the Town Manager on the installation

tasks <https://accd.vermont.gov/sites/accdnew/files/documents/CD/CPR/CPR-EVSE-Annual-Report.pdf>

- the topic of whether recycling issues fit within the NEC charge can be held over to a future meeting. Some resources:

<https://www.waste360.com/emissions/how-waste-industry-can-lead-climate-change>

<https://www.kingcounty.gov/depts/dnrp/solid-waste/programs/climate/climate-change-recycling.aspx>

- Linda attended a mini-conference on Beneficial Electrification at Vermont Law School on 2/16; the webcast was recorded and is available both through the VLS website and through Youtube: [VLS Website](#) [Youtube](#)

- The Waterbury energy group is hosting their annual Energy Fair on 4/6. Details are at <http://www.waterburyleap.org/projects/leap-energy-fair/> Linda will post to the list serv.

The 4th Tuesday in March is 3/26; 2 members will be away then, and 2 other members are not present tonight, so the committee will confirm a March meeting date by email.

submitted by Linda Gray