

Meeting of the Norwich Energy Committee Monday, 6/1/20, 7 pm, via Zoom

Attending: Linda Gray, Susan Hardy (until ~8 pm), Aaron Lamperti, Suzanne Leiter, Norm Levy, Charlie Lindner, Erich Rentz

Guests: Linda Cook, Rob Gere (Selectboard), Eva Rosenbloom, Pam Smith, Will Smith (at 7:30), Doug Wilberding

There was agreement to adjust the agenda to take up selection of chair and vice chair first. With appointments of Susan Hardy and Erich Rentz through 2023 the terms of committee members are staggered: 3 with terms ending in 2021, 2 ending in 2022, and 2 ending in 2023. Norm Levy moved, Suzanne Leiter seconded that Linda Gray serve as chair, Aaron Lamperti as vice chair; approved unanimously. Linda thanked Norm for his ongoing, active work with the committee and his service as vice-chair for many years.

Eva Rosenbloom presented her completed report on a GHG inventory for Town operations, which was done for her graduate coursework. PDFs of her report and her presentation were included with the meeting agenda; they are available at <http://norwich.vt.us/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/NEC-Agenda-060120-w-attachmts.pdf> . She calculated emissions at 55 Metric Tons from Administration (Tracy Hall), 90 MT from Police/Fire departments, and 195 from DPW, for 340 MT total. 67% are from mobile combustion sources (vehicles). She recommends aiming for a 25% reduction by 2025, 50% by 2030, and 100% by 2040.

Eva noted that Scope 3 emissions, which are indirect through for example purchases, waste processing, employee travel, employee commuting, could add up to much more than direct emissions. She recommended these next steps: Finish total Scope 1 & 2 Inventory (by compiling better data for the Public Safety and DPW buildings, and for town vehicles); Determine Scope 3 sources and accounting (for example, by surveying employees to refine the estimate of commuting emissions); Align GHG impacts with financial accounting; Submit total inventory report and reduction plans; and Expand boundaries from operational control to geographic boundaries (ie, do an inventory for the whole community, not just municipal operations). Eva agreed to assist the NEC with follow-up, continuing to work with Charlie Lindner and Aaron Lamperti.

Updates:

\*Eat Low & Local campaign: Linda reported that one of the four local partner farms (Hogwash) gained 1 new CSA member through the promotion; the other (vegetable) farms have not reported yet.

\*UV e-bike lending library: Linda reported that Local Motion (the parent organization for the loan program) is just beginning to do modified loans, and the Upper Valley group of 6 town energy committees will meet soon to review whether/how to do the program here.

\*Intermunicipal Regional Energy Coordinator: Linda reported that she's participated in 2 planning meetings; John Langhus has been appointed as the Norwich representative to the steering committee that will oversee the shared position (1 rep from each of 7 towns); TRORC has just posted the job opening.

\*Grant applications: Norm summarized the application to the Norwich Women's Club, for funds

to purchase 3 e-bike conversion kits; we will learn at the end of June whether the grant is awarded.

Linda reported that of our longtime solar partners, Solaflect (installing residential trackers) has resumed site visits and is ready for another Solarize Norwich campaign, and Norwich Solar Technologies is offering community (offsite) solar, but not residential rooftop solar. So we need to select a local installer doing residential rooftop installations. Erich volunteered to develop an initial list from which we can aim to select another campaign partner. The goal would be to conduct a Solarize campaign July-August-September through list-serv posts, web information, and Zoom solar Q/A sessions.

There was agreement to be consistent in describing the solar campaign as part of the larger "20% in 2020" effort, and continue to highlight the 20 in 20 information, pledge form, etc.

Linda described a webinar series from Climate Interactive <https://www.climateinteractive.org/get-involved/webinars/> and asked committee members to explore a bit, to give her feedback on where/how this climate solutions simulator might be used locally.

Aaron proposed a pilot project for the \$45,000 climate fund that was approved in March, to coordinate an integrated energy retrofit for a low-income household. Linda will monitor the status of the Selectboard's process for spending this fund.

The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, June 23, 7 pm, via Zoom.  
submitted by Linda Gray