

Meeting of the Norwich Energy Committee
Tuesday, 9/23/25, 7 pm, via Zoom

Attending: Rob Gere, Linda Gray, Tom Griggs (at 7:40), Charlie Lindner, Erich Rentz, Brad Wible (until 8:10)

1. The 8/26 minutes and the 9/23 agenda were approved by consensus.

2. Upcoming events:

a. EV Expo (9/6) debrief: Charlie, Linda, Rob volunteered and attended; there were several local car dealers and many individual models there; there were people seeking guidance to purchase an EV before the cut-off of the tax credit; there were opportunities for discussions among area presenters. Agreement that NEC should continue to play a supportive role.

b. Norwich Historical Society collaboration (10/14): Tom was not present yet; NHS has publicized in its latest e-newsletter. The presentation is consolidated into one date, 10/14. Linda has put on the NEC homepage the info from the NHS write-up. [After Tom joined the meeting, he confirmed that the speakers he lined up (Spatz and Gusakov) do not need an honorarium. Tom will coordinate with NHS on listserv posts.]

c. Sun Day (9/21) debrief: Linda reported that all went well – perhaps 100 attendees, great weather, good participants for activities on the green, with a group photo for Solarize Norwich with about 50 people. Solar/electric businesses reported great conversations, some have asked whether we will do it again. The collaboration with Hanover, Lyme, and Thetford energy committees was good as well.

d. WindowDressers Build (9/25-10/2): Linda reported that all is in place, with the number of inserts similar to last year, and slightly more volunteers.

e. Button Up 2025: Charlie will be away for all of October, has scheduled a sequence of list serv posts to highlight the weekly Button Up webinars. Agreement for Erich to seek the Town Manager's OK to apply for Efficiency VT funds to reimburse for a \$100 Ace Hardware gift card, to be used during outreach; agreement to use NEC budget to buy two \$50 gift cards from Fogg's. 10/25 is a possible date for outreach at the transfer station, with Rob and Tom available; Linda will reach out to some former NEC members to see any others can be lined up.

3. Tracy Hall energy upgrades: The NEC memo to the Selectboard on the need to act on a more comprehensive plan for weatherization and electrification in Tracy Hall was in the packet for the Selectboard's 9/10 meeting. Minutes from that meeting note that "The Selectboard asked the Town Manager to contact Studio Nexus to participate in an extended visioning for Tracy Hall at the October 8th Selectboard meeting for 30 minutes." Agreement for NEC members to attend on 10/8, to reiterate the substance of our memo and request inclusion in discussion of energy-related building issues.

4. Shared Energy Coordinator Report: Linda reported that Harry Falconer has finished his work on the Level 2 charging station at Norwich Sr. Housing, is continuing some support for the Level 3 charging station at D&W. Planning Director Steven True intends to call on Harry for the enhanced energy plan that the Planning Commission is undertaking.

5. Other Business: none.

7. Public comments, correspondence and announcements: Linda noted that energy committee members are offered free registration for the Renewable Energy VT conference in Burlington on 10/15; the VECAN conference will be on 11/1 at the Lake Morey Resort in Fairlee.

8. Adjourned at 8:20. The fourth Tuesday in October is 10/28.

Submitted by Linda Gray