

# **BRISTOL ENERGY COMMITTEE**

**Wednesday, May 23, 2018, 7:30 PM  
Holley Hall**

## **MEETING MINUTES**

Present: Ian Albinson, Sally Burrell, Dave Cobb, Mike Corey, Liston Freeman, John McCormick

Guests: Wendy Wilson, Richard Butz

### **I. Call to order: 7:30 PM**

### **II. Scheduled Appointments**

A. Wendy Wilson and Ian recapped the history of the proposed Town Energy Survey. Survey questions were considered and it was decided that the proposed survey goal had become a mute point due to the select board's decision on May 14. The survey would be confusing to residents and would likely not give a true reading. It was agreed not to pursue the original survey. Visitor, Kevin Hanson said he understands and is OK with the survey decision. Discussion began about creating a different survey in the future for compiling an inventory of present energy use and specific information residents need for decision making and long term cost savings through conservation, efficiency and renewable energy sources. Some questions considered: a. Current use fuel source and types of systems? b. Are you thinking about switching/transitioning? c. to what sources, systems? d. why? e. Are you interested in more efficiency? f. Comfort? g. Reducing cost? h. Long or short term?

What is the goal for the survey? Energy Inventory and Info Gathering

What is the goal for Bristol, energy-wise? Transition to Renewables. Decentralized electricity.

### **III. New business**

A. Guest: Richard Butz connected with Paul Markowitz of Efficiency Vermont who is willing to make available the options for home energy audits, rebates, free walk throughs and educational programs in Bristol. Paul is glad to offer an Energy Independence 101 workshop. He'll help with creating a handbook, including case studies, to inform the public about conservation, efficiency and renewable options. Richard will continue to collaborate with Paul and the energy committee on affordable, environmentally sustainable options for Bristol. He will ask Paul to be a speaker at the next BEC meeting. Richard also suggested an Energy Fair in the fall with the help of the LEAP Program.

B. Roundtable discussion of interests and ideas for projects.

Mike: Connect with VNRC (VT Natural Resource Council) who have worked with energy committees. Joanne could be helpful with info on rebates. Also, connect with active energy committees like Weybridge and Hinesburg for collaboration.

John: Fred Baser's H.831 passed which offers \$5 mil in 2020 and \_\_\_ in 2019 in loans for weatherization.

John established a 501c3 committee for advanced wood heat, VEIC 5 year plan, VT forest pellets. Still need to deal with low income.... by writing legislation along with experts on the topic and share with legislators. Others are welcome to join the conversation.

Liston will check in about what CVOEO offers for free audits and weatherization work.

Richard: Planning and Conservation Commissions are wanting to be more proactive, as is the BEC.

Mike and Dave on Solar Siting: GMP says Micro sites are better for the grid. They also have more rebates for customers. Dave has a good app for calculating production of PV to determine roof capacity. 35 degrees is best angle. How about solar at the school. Carports? Dave may talk with Valerie. Town shed roofs for part of municipal or school electricity? Step by step invest over time.

John: Volkswagen settlement and ANR mitigation plan. \$2.5 mil dedicated to EV recharge stations. Ian described past research for a charging station in Bristol. High power requires 3 phase. BEC and CORE will have to submit business plan to ANR.

Dave: Look into power consumption of the town, including number of meters and monthly cost, water pump use, which can be high with leaks. Find out thru GMP how much people spend.

Ian: Wants scope of work or impact statement from VGS. Work with Planning and Conservation Commissions to form the many questions that need to be answered by VGS. Communication Updates: website and Facebook.

**Future topics/visitors:** Paul Markowitz, Bob Donnis, VNRC rep, and look into Dashboard.

**Revisit:** education for community, walk throughs, school kids, energy fair, Matt Sharpe's Button up program.

#### **IV. Next Meeting – June 20, 2018, 7:30pm**

#### **V. Adjourn**