

BRISTOL ENERGY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, December 19, 2018, 7:00 PM
Lawrence Memorial Library

Prepared by Sally Burrell

MEETING MINUTES DRAFT

Members present: Ian Albinson, Richard Butz, Sally Burrell, Michael Corey, Liston Freeman, John McCormick. Also present: Shawn Billops from NEAT.

I. Call to order: 7:00 PM

II. Scheduled Appointments

A. **Victor Veve**, Director of Development, [Green Lantern Solar](#) - presentation about offering the Town an **Option to Lease the capped landfill for a solar installation**.

1. John asked if Mt Abe students could be educationally involved. Victor encourages student/teacher involvement and said a monitor can be placed in the school so anyone can see what's going on at the site (energy production, etc).
2. Approximate permitting cycle: 12 months and could be from 8 to 18 months. Public communication with PUC could help with permit process and timeline.
3. Benefits to Town - a) Save 10% on municipal electric bills. b) long term lease provides income to Town. c) adds to Town's tax base. d) adds to renewable energy goals and produces clean, reliable electricity for local utility.
4. The Project - a) 500 kW ground mount solar PV system. b) ballast system is used to avoid penetration of landfill or cap. c) will occupy approximately 3.5 acres. d) About 2,250 panels will be installed in 15 rows. e) GL will pay for 3-phase interconnection. f) panels are bought as needed and available from Canada, Korea and/or USA. We will weigh in where possible.
5. **Motion:** Ian will ask for Town permission for Green Lantern to access all GMP meter records to discover all potential savings for the Town in this project. All "yes".
6. How does Green Lantern make money on the project? They're able to get the 30% tax rebate to pay for construction; Bristol's electric bill will be reduced by 10% and sent to Green Lantern instead of GMP; long term performance of the panels.
7. Lease is for 20 years with 5 yr optional extensions up to 35 years. Decommissioning is the full responsibility of Green Lantern.
8. Other siting questions and comments: a) Cassella owns the other preferred solar (landfill) site near Stoney Hill. Solar parking lot canopies at Mt Abe? School

rooftop solar? Ian will send info to Victor about previous assessments of parking lot and rooftop. c) Bristol could look into supplying reduced cost energy to particular segments of Bristol, such as KTP or a school, using net metering credits.

III. **Current Business**

A. Button-up Hero Program: successful with total of 47 sign-ups for free walk-thru's. The series promoted engagement between energy committee and residents. Free LED lights and bulbs and NEST thermostat raffle helped draw people to the events. We'll have a celebration later.

1. Harvest Fest will be an annual presence and educational event for Bristol Energy Committee.
2. Button Up Workshop - EVT presentation and Bob Donnis Case Study - 35-40 attendees with 16-20 sign-ups. Nate, of Silver Maple, has completed most of his walk thru's. Next steps for BEC: review Heat Saver Loan application and contact completed walk-thru residents to check-in and offer assistance. Ck with Paul Markowitz for details. Eric, of Harvester, will begin his walk thru's in January.
3. Mobile Home Efficiency and Energy Saving Workshop - CVOEO and EVT presenters - one attendee, very informative for BEC members re: mobile home issues and time sensitive circumstances.
4. Meet the Contractors Event - 12 attendees, many signed up.
5. Door to Door visits with informational materials helped reach some people.

B. Enhanced Energy Plan - Work with Addison County Regional and Bristol Planning Commissions just began to update and flesh out Bristol's Town Energy Plan to meet regional and state guidelines. Andrew of ACRPC has created a draft to work from which is 27 pages compared to our present 3 page Bristol Energy Plan. Including goals, policies and actions in the body of the Town Plan with an extensive appendix to contain graphs, maps and tables may make sense.

C. Committee Members - Dave Cobb won't be available for the next few months and is fine with switching to being an advisor rather than a member. He had originally wanted to be an advisor and was urged to be a member because we were two members short. Seven members makes a full committee so we need two more members. John Moyers was suggested and approach. He is interested. Ian will reach out with an official invitation. Any suggestions for new members? Let Ian know.

D. State weatherization funding - John presented a legislative bill introduction he's been writing. The Climate Action Commission is now final and one of the 53 recommendations is "Accelerate Weatherization", however the document doesn't mention how resources would be made available. John pulled text from many similar bills introduced. Two cents/gallon liquid fuels would be accrued through fuel dealers and given to the 4 or 5 CVOEO-like weatherization programs across the state. It would include workforce training. The net result would be a reduction in carbon. **Motion:** John

presents the bill to legislators at their Community Open House next week in Bristol. All “yes”.

E. **Caleb Elder’s Legislative Brief at Starksboro Energy Committee Jan 7th** - Who would like to attend? Most of us. John will let Caleb know we’d like to attend.

F. **Electric Vehicle Charger** - Application complex and not ready yet. There will be help for towns next time around so we’ll aim for the grant then.

G. Approval of minutes from last meeting November 14, 2018: All “yes”

IV. Next Meeting – January 16, 2018

V. Adjourn.