



**TOWN OF BRISTOL
ENERGY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, February 20, 2019 7:00 PM
Holley Hall**

MINUTES

**Energy Committee
Members**

Ian Albinson, Chair
Sally Burrell
Richard Butz
David Cobb
Michael Corey
Liston Freeman
John McCormick

Energy Committee Members present: Sally Burrell, Richard Butz, Mike Corey, Liston Freeman, John McCormick.

Others present: NEAT

I. Call to order: 7:10 PM

II. Added Agenda Items

Liston's offer to conduct audits on Municipal Buildings

- Suggested buildings are the Library, Howden Hall and, possibility, Holley Hall?
- We'll ask Ian, our chairperson, to get permission from the Town Manager to do the audits and get utility data.
- Committee volunteers will assist Liston as needed.
- We will ask Efficiency VT for advice.

Role of Energy Committee and members place in it.

- Richard presented a brief paper dealing with our mission and the kinds of materials we use to help inform us and make recommendations. (see below)
- John suggested that we bring in speakers to inform the public regarding climate change and its impacts.
- Liston suggested we construct a mission statement with examples, such as the gas pipeline issue. Richard will pursue this.
- Mike asked how do we communicate with the Selectboard? How do we serve? This will be on the agenda for the next meeting.
- Sally noted that the energy committee's purpose is to promote conservation, efficiency and renewable energy for a safe and resilient energy future.

III. New business

Transportation Climate Initiative

- John discussed electrification of The transportation sector as a prime way to reduce carbon
- The Bristol Energy Committee/Starksboro Energy Committees can be catalyst in urging/supporting Governor Scott to enter into an agreement with 9 other northeastern states in the Transportation and Climate Initiative, to establish a cap and trade program for transportation fuels similar to RGGI's CO2 Cap on electric generation fuels.



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- Income generated from TCI could be used to offset costs of moving to electric public transit vehicles and supporting rebates to lower and middle income Vermonters to buy electric vehicles.
- The transportation sector generates 43% of the carbon dioxide in Vermont.
- John has drafted a supporting letter to Governor Scott regarding the TCI initiative for us to review when the two committees meet together on March 6.

Transportation Climate Initiative

- Sally presented her collaboration with Matt Sharp, Bristol Weatherization Challenge (below)
- This could be an inter-town competition or quadrants of Bristol.
- Richard suggested a Flash Competition, keeping it simple and within the time limit.
- Liston suggested an icicle competition as a fun part of it.
- A local hardware store could sponsor/host a weatherization workshop or EVT could conduct the workshop. Prizes such as free dinners at local restaurants could be sought. Current deadline for rebates is April 1. Matt will see if it can be extended.
- Sally will work on a plan to move forward with this.

Student participation on the Energy Committee – The committee discussed recruiting a high school student to serve on the BEC and will pursue this with the high school administration. Specifics will be added to the March 20, agenda.

IV. Current business

Button-up Hero Program – Sally is calling participants to check in and will update the list. Other committee members can participate in the calls if there are people we know on the list or are willing to call.

EV Supply Equipment Grant Program – We missed the last deadline because of the complexity of the application process. Mike is going to look into what information was gleaned during the first round and try to pick it up from there. He will consult with Ian.

V. Approval of minutes from last meeting January 16, 2019

VI. Next Meetings

March 6, 2019 – Joint meeting with Starksboro Energy Committee
March 20, 2019 – Lawrence Memorial Library

VII. Adjourn

Voting Members

Ian Albinson, Sally Burrell, Dave Cobb, Mike Corey, Liston Freeman, John McCormick, Richard Butz

Advisors

Bob Donnis, Matt Sharpe, Wendy Wilson

Sources of Information Used to Make Recommendations

Section 6. Energy

Careful planning will be necessary to meet the energy needs of Bristol's residents and businesses at a time of rapid technological, environmental, and economic change. This will require both a spirit of innovation and close coordination with the Bristol Energy Committee and with statewide agencies such as Efficiency Vermont.

Goals

- 1. The Town of Bristol will be committed to energy efficiencies and conservation, in order to save town financial resources and to provide for a more sustainable and self-reliant future.*
- 2. The town will support the Bristol Energy Committee and give consideration to energy efficiencies and conservation when engaged in residential and economic planning*

With that in mind it is important to realize that Energy Committee members attempt to base our recommendations on the best science available. For example I'd like to point to the following sources as *examples* of the information we rely on:

Climate Science Special Report: Fourth National Climate Assessment Vol. I

Fourth National Climate Assessment Volume II: Impacts, Risks, and Adaptations in the United States

The Essex Plan, an Economy Strengthening Strategic Energy Exchange

An Analysis of Decarbonization Methods in Vermont

From the Energy Action Network: *Getting to 90% renewables by 2050*

From Vermont Conservation Voters: *Vermont's Environmental Common Agenda*

From the Conservation Law Foundation: *Turn Off the Gas*

Bristol Weatherization Challenge

1. Who? Homeowners, renters with permission.
2. What's the challenge? Complete at least 3 Do-It-Yourself Projects.
[see website for full list](#) (Examples: 3 windows; 3 doors; or 1 attic hatch, 1 basement bulkhead door and 1 rim joist.) There is guidance but not many rules.
3. Registration: Sign-up and Information form (Ian?)
Attractive Incentives? for the first 40 signed up (10 from each quadrant).
4. The \$100 rebate for DIY materials is still in effect for materials purchased by April 1st and application submitted by May 1st ... not much time to mobilize and take advantage of that!!
Matt will check into expanding that time frame.
5. Teams: neighborhoods against neighborhoods. The 4 quadrants of Bristol: East of North St. vs West of North St. South of Pleasant/Spring vs North of Pleasant/Spring, with extensions shown on a map to the borders of Bristol, creating fairly equal sized areas and # of homes.
I'll work on a map for clarity. OR 5-Town Challenge?
6. Categories for Prizes
 1. Numbers of housing units with 3 DIY projects completed.
 2. Total number of DIY projects completed.
 3. Number of Pro-job projects (Home Performance program with Efficiency Vermont).
7. Prizes
 1. Ask local businesses to donate gift certificates for some fun categories, to add appeal?
 2. Request large *drawing* prizes for the large category winners? One person on the team will get the drawing prize.
 3. Check out grants for cash prizes?
 4. Everyone wins the 3 prizes of efficiency, comfort and cost savings.
8. Time frame: By 2020. \$100 rebates end April 1st so starting soon would save people money.
9. Residents can go through a short training to help identify projects for their team.
10. Take before and after photographs in order to qualify the work.... and photos *during* for fun!