

Vershire Town Energy Committee
September 7, 2022 7 PM
Vershire Town Center – with Zoom option

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8410780575?pwd=RWdJWTEzdEJqV1V6TWWhJSHduNFJzdz09>

Present: David, Neil, Andy, Katrina, Richard, Pete, Pat

Introductions of committee members for the benefit of Katrina Monzon, new energy committee member

Minutes from 8.15.22 meeting: accepted

Energy Resource Table/event at Fall Festival: Sunday October 16th from 1:00-5:00. Lawn tools, a slideshow based on Pete's 9.17 presentation, Window Dressers volunteer opportunities. **Staffing the table volunteers: Pat, Andy, David, Pete...Katrina will check on how Mountain School students can be involved.**

Joining IREC (Inter Municipal Regional Energy Coordinator)? (7-town regional energy committee with Jeff Martin/TRORC) - costs and timing: Jeff Martin reported that the group is currently full (7 towns) but there may be space for us in the future. IREC charges \$85/hour. Jeff was active with the design of the Woodstock Fire Station and reports that Efficiency Vermont and GMP provided upwards of \$50k energy efficiency incentives. **David will look into precisely what IREC offers for its services.**

Fedex Box: Three alternative sites: Town Hall, Vershare's Church Orr House, and the Vershire Post Office (unlikely due to USPS competition). The consensus is that the town office (due to snow plowing will be the preferred site) The Selectboard is aware of the project and we now await FedEx's response. Richard will keep

Local Transportation Survey (TVT bus) TVT will put the survey together for us. **Richard will continue to pursue the survey from TVT. Richard will ask Mke (TVT) if a promotional trip that demonstrates TVT services would be possible.**

Selectboard/Energy Com trip on TVT Bus to Woodstock to view public safety building AWHP. Richard reports that \$85/hour to charter the bus Saturday would be the preferred day. **David will explain the costs involved to the Selectboard to see if they are interested and attempt to pick a date (September 24th?) for the trip.** A separate trip to use the bus to go to the valley for some other event or errands may be a more appropriate introduction to TVT.

Transfer Station Kiosk: No cutting of timbers has yet taken place. **Pat (and the Chelsea School woodshop) will begin work after the last of the summer projects are completed.**

Performing low-cost energy audits: No progress yet. **Pat will organize a meeting with Neil and Pete to work on this.**

Charger at town center. Pat has contacted EV GO, ChargePoint, and Electrify America and is awaiting next steps. **Pat will continue to pursue these firms.**

Weatherization 101 will be presented Sept 17 at the Town Center from 10:00 to noon. Pete suggests that the challenge will be to convince contractors to do weatherization work in our area. **Pat will begin posting the announcement on the listserv and will check with Gene Craft about using the town's AV system. 9:30 set-up on the 17th.**

Efficiency Vermont Home Energy Audit phone script. **Pat and Andy will follow up with EV to see if we can become better ambassadors.**

Purchasing Policy re: climate - what are other towns doing, to what effect: **Pete will report when he hears back from the towns contacted.**

Joint Meeting with Planning Commission and Selectboard re Town Plan/Energy issues: **David will be the Energy Committee's representative at the meeting 9.14 at 7:00.** Town Plan link:
<https://vershirevt.org/documents/>

Website: David has visited Norwich and Thetford's Energy Committee websites and is planning a way to compile information that Gene Craft could place on Vershire's site.

Energy Audit for Town Office: Pete reports that weatherization cannot begin until the radon is mitigated. Neil made the point that a ROI analysis would be helpful to make the case to the selectboard. Pete countered that such analyses are notoriously difficult.

Window Dressers: Neil reported that most inserts are spoken for and about half of the volunteer slots are filled.

Pete is signed up for the Climate Change Leadership Academy.

Next meeting: October 5, 2022

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Barnes, secretary