

Minutes of Vershire Town Energy Committee Regular Meeting
Wednesday November 2, 7-9 PM
Vershire Town Center and by Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8410780575?pwd=RWdJWTEzdEJqV1V6TWJSHduNFJzdz09>

Approve DRAFT minutes: moved seconded and accepted

Local Transportation Survey (TVT bus) - (Richard /David)

The survey will take some time but a van from VTrans might be available to town if we supply a driver.

Driver qualifications are yet to be determined.

Richard is working on permitting for a Park-n-Ride with 12-14 spaces. There were concerns expressed about the flexibility of requirements for an official Park-n-Ride designation. **Richard will look into the regulations.** There was the suggestion to view the potential parking area through the lens of the energy committee's charge—what's the energy balance of improved lighting, and pavement (also aesthetics) compared to the savings of carpooling.

Statement or next action regarding WEC tariff/Net metering: Although there was some discussion, because not all energy committee members have read the article at this time, an action item is not yet appropriate. Neil will re-send copies of the articles to the committee members.. **Richard will look into the feasibility of net meterers adding further generation capacity (microhydro) to their generating portfolio)**

(Advantages to WEC of distributed solar generation: Avoidance of some line loss, avoidance of stranded capital, increasing generating capacity...)

Performing low-cost energy audits and BPI certification options sponsored by Efficiency Vermont—Peter has enrolled in this course, Pat is awaiting admission. Peter suggests that without labor to make improvements and funding it's hard to know where this program will go. David suggests that having a crew of people, familiar with the Efficiency Vermont phone interview script. Pete suggests that we find people beyond the energy committee who would help with these phone audits.

Andy will contact EV to see what is the backlog on scheduling the phone audit. Pete will investigate who at EV could train volunteers.

Purchasing Policy re: climate - what are other towns doing, to what effect , what to recommend to Selectboard. Pete has acquired and distributed materials but only Neil has digested them. So far, Neil reports, the guidelines seem like it would have little discernible effect because given other more pressing criteria. **We will leave effort for the time being.**

Brief updates/reports on

- Fedex Box update. Richard has not yet tested the box but has seen the FedEx truck there. Andy has successfully sent a package from this box. **Andy will write a review and encouragement of the box use for the listserv.**

- Joining IREC? (7-town regional energy committee with Jeff Martin/TRORC) - David reported that there may be an opportunity to join a new consortium of towns who may share an energy coordinator. David is awaiting word from this group.

- Transfer Station Kiosk Timberhomes will donate out of their inventory material for a Kiosk. **Pat will contact Brian Poirier at Timberhomes about coordinating a workday.**

- Charger at town center—charger companies require a sizable upfront fee to install a public charger, higher than the town would be interested in paying at this time. Either VTrans may subsidize in the future or Vershare

- Town Garage update including Act 172 (H518) David reports that if we can provide an “assessment” we can apply for up to \$500,000 in ARPA money for the Town garage. David is working on the “assessment”

that compares the old building energy usage to the proposed building. John Hanel has been hired by the town to create this assessment.

- Town Plan update process – No news on this front.
- Website–no news
- Town office audit no news
- Window Dressers/Mtn School–committee members are encouraged, if they haven't already, to sign up for work slots. Thursday 10.4 Vermont Edition will feature Window Dressers.
- Climate Change Leadership Academy–no news

Outreach: New/Recycled list-serv posts:

- Efficiency Vermont home energy Visits
- Others
- Other topics to write

Old Business,
New Business

Next meeting Thursday December 15 7:00.