

Draft Minutes of the Vershire Town Energy Committee Regular Meeting

Wednesday, July 3, 2024, 7 PM

Vershire Town Center and by Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8410780575?pwd=RWdJWTEzdEJqV1V6TWZhJSHduNFJzdz09>

In attendance: David Hooke, Neil Hochstedler, Pat Barnes

Approval of DRAFT minutes from June 2024 meeting.

Report on “Getting to know your EV” - Pat reported a nice welcome from the Farmer’s Market and good questions from interested citizens.

Energy Fair prep and details. Long-range forecast, tent setup, tables. 3-6 PM timing. Neil will hold the fort and represent WindowDressers. David will check with Andy W. about Efficiency Vt and Richard about Carbon sequestration and van pooling.

Events calendar 2024 and announcement. Sequestration (Richard) presentation. Other presentations could include: PV’s, Heatpumps, Heatpump hot water...other events? Review at August 7 meeting

Kiosk move/changes, Park and Ride signs - Kiosk is in a good position functionally and aesthetically. Pat will connect with Doug Stone about hanging Park and Ride signs.

MERP update – Harry Falconer informed the town that MERP assessments will be done for Town Garage and Town Office only, not Sargent House or Town Center. The Garage and Town office assessments are to be “scheduled in July.”

Sargent House: Currently the Selectboard has indicated that the Sargent house will be used for emergency management and therefore Eileen Murphy will be a logical contact. Neil and Pat will arrange to perform a blower door test and infrared thermography (a cool evening would be best.) Neil will ask Gene Craft for oil use records. Pat will send an email to Vern and Eileen to schedule a walk-through and conversation.

Town Office: MERP Level II assessment will be scheduled sometime (soon) Neil suggests that we have input on the assessment and ask for ROI on a vestibule and foundation/slab insulation, also installation of heat pump space heating (in addition to anything else the assessing agency suggests...Pat will ask the Selectboard (7.16 meeting) to endorse this request and contact Harry Falconer.

Town Garage: Humidity problems are not fully resolved. The EC recommends that the MERP assessment include installing Solar on Town Garage Roof and the ROI for offsetting the electrical use of town buildings.

Town Center Building: The selectboard would like the EC to coordinate a number of vendors to explore the options available (including lifetime costs) for heating and cooling. A specific RFP will need to be drafted and approved by the Selectboard David will compose a first draft of the RFP. Possible vendors include: Building Energy, ARC, Lime Green Heat, Garret Aiken, Chad Ward...

Solar on Garage Roof - There have been questions from possible vendors/bidders, who submitted proposals in 2023. There’s the possibility of this solar offsetting electric costs of the other Town buildings. David will contact the solar vendors that have previously made proposals for the town garage to inquire about new costs and the possibility of an investor-financed solar installation. David will also ask Bill Powell of WEC about recent PUC rule changes regarding group net metering.

Website: David will ask Gretchen if we can add a link on the town's Energy Committee for the Energy Committee's "resource page" This is the page that Justin is developing, and for now is hosted by VerShare. By doing this, the current Town page can remain as is, and the Energy Committee can develop its "resource page" without having to change the current Town page.

New committee member update. David will continue to converse with Paddy McCarthy who continues to be interested in working with the EC.

Next meeting: August 7, 2024

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Barnes