

Craftsbury Energy Committee  
August 18, 2022  
Monthly meeting minutes  
Submitted by: Catherine Cusack

In Attendance: Alan Turnbull, Kevin Gregoire, Craig Taylor, Vince O'Connell, Catherine Cusack, Ned Houston

Absent: Mabel Houghton, Lisa Sammet, Jen Forbes, Stan Seemann, Matt Moody, Bill Chidsy

- Old Home Day Summary

**Very positive reception, worth doing annually, answered a lot of questions.**

- New Bill by Congress to support Weatherization, Renewables, and Energy Saving Appliances

**Need public support to pursue initiatives centered around public buildings like the school or town clerk's office.**

**If pursued a public charging station would need to consider who would pay for the electricity. Maybe it is coin operated. And where should this be installed - is the Village a good location? A Level 2 charging station would cost approximately \$2,000 to purchase and \$100k to install. Group thought it was a good idea to have another town group take on the infrastructure needs of the town in order to make this happen.**

**Group is tracking the bill to understand incentives for weatherization and appliances. Where do we look for this information?**

***Kevin will contact Farley Brown on the Village Planning Commission to see about possible placement of an EV Charging parking spot, or two.***

- Microgrid for the Library

**Library has funds for a generator, can those funds be used to support a portion of a solar project, could run into some timing issues due to when the secured grant needs to be spent. Ned is working on that decision with the Board of Trustees and Librarian. *Ned and Vince will write a proposal for the use of the town's ARPA funds for the additional funds to support solar if that is the route the library takes. Proposal is due to the town on Sept. 6th.***

- Town Hall Basement Weatherization

**Kevin gave quotes for foam insulation, roughly \$7.40 sq. ft. seems pricey. Maybe get a grant for a dehumidifier. Other work is on hold, crawl space is too small.**

***Vince and Craig are going to look into the "New Vermont Energy Resilience Grant" to see how it may apply to the Town Hall.***

- Firewood Project

**Demand is up, supply limited. Discussion around instituting an application process, are there limits on the number of cords one family can have, is there**

expectation of volunteer time to help process? Processing the log ends is a big, big undertaking - need more help, more splitters.

To date have processed 12 cords. No spring store on hand due to high demand. Discussion on how to get ahead of demand, no real solutions at this point. Need a place to store it if we could get ahead to ensure folks have dry wood!

Discussion on whether Heat pumps was an effective solution for low-income Vermonters over wood heat.

*Kevin will get a Firewood Usage Summary to Jared Nunery to give to the State of Vermont to justify firewood that we are receiving, and potentially get more.*

#### Window Insert Program

**Craftsbury has 198 insets to build for 25 households**

**Albany 50 insets**

**Greensboro 125 insets**

**Jobs needed for community builds:**

**Volunteer Organizing - Kevin and Catherine**

**Utilize Window Dressers new signup app. - CC/KG**

**to**

**explore options**

**Idea to recruit non-profit organizations for a shift - CC to reach out to non-profits**

**Timing of getting equipment from Glover tricky, will be a short turn around to build almost 400 insets.**

*Kevin will reach out to Knights of Colu\mbus and Kiwanis in Hardwick for a potential presentation to solicit potential assistance during the Insert Construction workshop*

**Discuss more logistics at Sept. meeting**

**- Craftsbury Town Solar - Revisit Town Garage Roofs**

**Project on hold**

**- Tour of Energy Efficient Homes**

**Tours on hold**

**- Potential info table in the Fall at the Farmers Market?**

**Tabled - see value in Old Home Day presence for sure.**

*Vince announced an interest in hosting a DIY Heat Pump and Solar Installation Workshop this fall. Very supportive of members present.*