

Craftsbury Energy Committee Meeting Minutes 11-18-2021

Attending: Kevin Gregoire, Ned Houston, Mabel Houghton, Matt Moody, Alan Turnbull, Sten Seemann, Craig Taylor

1. Window Insert Debrief

- 173 inserts in 5 days, Ten - 3 1/2 hour sessions
- Volunteer base established / Green Racing Project from Outdoor _ and Sterling
- Kevin estimated that there were 35 volunteers over the time of the project
- Friday night work session Craig said was good for setting up a lot of inserts
- Craftsbury Outdoor Center space - limited time to pick up Inserts
- There was a long stretch of 5 full days of work with Kevin, Ned and Craig putting in full day
- Talk of Albany's workshop at COC next year
- Dates / Timing of Measuring and Workshop next year
- Problem getting households to sign up / pick up (Limited time to pick up at COC)
 - 20 households got inserts, half of them volunteered
 - Emphasis of workshop participation in the advertising
 - 30 minutes participation per insert
 - Have set Workshop dates and times and
 - Have household's sign up at the time of measuring to volunteer
 - Online sign-up sheet provided by WD for volunteers
- Potential for dividing up logistics for next year:
- Delivery of Inserts
 - Solicitation / reminders to household sign-up to help build inserts, pickup inserts
 - Computer- related: Window data entry, issue of receipt to household, info re. Eff. Vt. rebate, follow-up questions / concerns and send to each household info re: Care and Maintenance
- Next year Divide into three workgroups:
 - Solicitation and reminders
 - Computer related – data entry, etc.
 - Follow-up
- Follow-up for next year. Post items on Front Porch Forum about how well the inserts worked
 - Put the model in the library again?
 - Make some for the library?
 - Get Adrian's class at Sterling to make some for Sterling
- Because of the \$2,000 VT Community Foundation Grant and \$500 from the Town
 - We gave away 90 free inserts
 - With 20 households that was an average of 8.5 inserts/households
 - Suggestion to get a larger grant next year to give out more free inserts

2. Firewood Program

- 7 households received firewood this fall
- 20 volunteers on Sat. Nov 13
- All 12 cords cut, 2 cords left to split
- 3 split cords to be delivered to the Town Garage for late winter needs
- Jared Nunery - Second 12 cords update
- Opportunity for Cut Ends from Columbia Forest Products in Derby
 - would have to arrange transportation and storage

3. Free, Annual Vt. Energy & Climate Action Network (VECAN) Zoom Conference, Sat., 12/4 - 12/9

<https://vecan.net/conferences/14th-annual-vecan-conference-2021/>

- Free / \$25 for Sat. workshop: 9 AM - 12 PM Overview of Federal, State and Local Climate Action
- Mon. Dec. 6th, 12 PM – 1:15 PM—Environmental & Climate Justice in Vermont: Issues and Opportunities
- Tues. Dec. 7th, 12 PM – 1:15 PM—Build Back Better, Vermont Climate Plan & a Legislative Look Forward
- Wed. Dec. 8th, 12 PM – 1:15 PM—Creating Resilient Communities in the Face of Climate Change
- Thurs. Dec. 9th, 12 PM – 1:15 PM—Tips, Tools and Strategies for an Effective Energy Committee

4. Two Solar Arrays on smaller Town Garage sheds proposed

- Kevin attended Select Board meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 16 for permission to get bids
- Site analysis and 3 bids.
- If the sites are feasible CEC suggests funding from the Good Neighbor Fund
 - Town Vote needed at Town Meeting in 2022
 - The Good Neighbor Fund may already be committed
 - Maybe ARPA Fund could be used
- Need to get electric usage from the Town for what it is using and how much the solar is paying
 - Matt will investigate that. Alan could help in the spring

5. Town Hall

- Kevin talked to the Select Board about the building on Tuesday, also
- Drainage around building / Foam spray in basement
- Insulation Board in Big Basement windows
- Insulate Hot water pipes in Basement
- Lighting
- Could have a work party after Thanksgiving: Kevin, Ned and Mabel
- Get an estimate for spray foaming basement but need to correct drainage problems first

- At Annual Meeting

- to provide funds for 2 - 3 Home Energy Audits?
- Limited Income access or Raffle open to all?
- Where to get the money for the cost of the audits? A benefactor?

- Other Business: Go back to meeting regularly on the Third Thursday of each month

Next meeting: Thursday, Dec. 16, 2021. Time and location TBA