

Craftsbury Energy Committee
Minutes May 19, 2022

Attending: Kevin Gregoire, Mabel Houghton, Ned Houston, Sten Seemann, Craig Taylor, Bill Chidsey, Allen Turnbull

1. Report on State plans for charging stations with VT Trans from Craig who attended meeting.
 - Idea of getting Federal money for a high-speed charging station in Craftsbury isn't happening soon.
 - VT Trans is planning to use Federal money to put them in major transportation corridors.
 - VT Trans has criteria for placement of the high-speed charging stations
 - Doesn't look like they will have opportunities to get grants yet. Vermont has 1 charging station per 1000. More than any other state, but NEK has hardly any.
 - There are two level 2 chargers waiting in the Public House to be installed. Craig will talk to Sung-Hee when he sees her next
2. Town Hall Basement Weatherization
 - Select Board doesn't want to cover up historic Bull's Eye granite with sprayfoam, North Side
 - They don't want to seal up windows on the north side
 - Kevin wants to cover windows with styrofoam for the winter, not permanently
 - Green Racing Project members might take on cleaning up this area for a service project
 - Question about how to deal with the area under the office area
 - Maybe should go with the Selectboard and look together at what can be done
3. Firewood Project
 - Next Processing bee 5/20/22 at 8:30 am
 - Firewood Processing Bee on Saturday, 4/30/22 - 14 people, only 3 log splitters though
 - Delivered to 6 households, 5 more households want firewood
 - John Stoddard has been doing the delivery
 - Waiting for more firewood to be delivered by All Metals Recycling/ Northern Forest Products
 - Northern Forest has but ends
 - Kevin called All Metals but they won't transport them for free so Kevin is going to Contact Northern Forest again
4. Window Insert Program
 - We have measured the windows of 18 of the 22 households signed up.
 - The 22 households have signed up for 172 inserts. 175 is our goal.
 - This year we are giving away 68 free inserts.
 - Concern about going over our goal and compromising the other towns
 - If the other towns don't reach their goals we could take on some more households
 - Greensboro is going to try to accommodate the 4 Hardwick households that wanted inserts.
 - Susie Houston acquired another 2022 grant from Vt. Community Foundation for free inserts.
 - For low-income households and wood processing
 - \$2,500
5. Any ideas for Energy-related applications for ARPA funds?
 - Low-income weatherization-related?
 - Infrared gun that shows where cold air is entering homes?
 - Community / Energy Committee-owned log splitter?
 - Solar Array for Town Garage, off-site somewhere?
 - Level three EV charger?

6. Progress on Solar for the Library

- Vince forwarded estimate to Ned for solar approximately \$30,000
- Ned needs to talk to Vince
- Could lay people install with final done by certified installer to verify?
- Library roof is standing seam and the panels clamp on
- Worth more investigation with the Library Board
- There is a working group on this subject, Ned, Mabel and Kevin will meet with the group
- Need for generator as an emergency communication center
- Be more specific about what the needs are

7. Community Solar Project

- Previous interest by homeowners
- Need to gather background, find available land and landowner
- Needs to be close to three-phase electric connection
- Anyone interested in taking up the mantle?
- Select Board also wants to find a landowner who will give them space for more solar
- Kevin will put out the question on Front Porch Forum

8. Town Hazard Mitigation Project -

- One Hazard Mitigation Committee member is asking me: "As the "cooling season" approaches, I wonder if the Energy Committee plans to communicate with the community on the subject of passive cooling strategies? Some of his strategies: - opening windows at night and exchanging air with fans, - keeping entry door areas separated from the rest of the house with sheer curtains to block hot outside air from rushing in. Kevin will put something out on FPF about this.

- Another reason to weatherize!
- Install a heat pump with RE compliment
- Should we pursue posting summer-related energy-saving suggestions on FPF?
- Other strategies?

- If you haven't filled out the Hazard Mitigation survey, the survey is short and it is an opportunity to have input regarding climate-related natural hazard mitigation - even lobby for a microgrid at the closest Emergency Shelter - what a thought!

You can find the survey here: <https://survey.zohopublic.com/zs/RgB3xg>

9. Question about doing home tours of energy efficient buildings? Are people willing to allow a visit?

- What would people be willing to show?
- Some things that are purely exterior could be shown
- Testimonials about costs and how to pay for it
- Tour ideas discussed

10. Should we do something at the Craftsbury Farmers Market? Or Old Home Days?

- Show easy things like electric mowers
- Electric bicycles

Next meeting then Thursday, June 15, 2022

Minutes submitted by Lisa Sammet