

Barre City Energy Committee
Meeting Minutes
December 11, 2017

Committee Members Present: Elaine Wang, Conor Teal, Phil Cecchini, Tim Perrin

Committee Members Absent: None

City Staff Present: Janet Shatney, Jeff Bergeron

Citizens Present: Richard Hiscock

Visitors: None

1. Meeting called to order at 5:30 pm
Minutes Taker: *Janet volunteered, and will take minutes for meetings from now on.*
2. Changes to agenda? *None*
3. Approve meeting minutes for Sept. 25, Oct. 23, and Nov. 27, 2017: *Motion to approve all 3 sets of minutes by Phil and seconded by Conor, passed unanimously.*
4. Monthly tracking of fuel use/costs: *Jeff passed out a copy of fuel deliveries for the Barre City Facilities buildings for the current fiscal year. Tim hopes for some fuel dealer's data history, and Jeff was going to call to see if he could get an export of our usage over the past years. Discussion of calculating heating degree days occurred as well.*
5. Update on City Hall project - Timeline of City Attorney review? *Tabled due to City Manager Mackenzie's absence.*
6. Community Solar Campaign: *tabled due to City Manager Mackenzie's absence;*

Note: a brief conversation ensued with Richard sharing his success with SunCommon, and that they have partnered with GMP. Talk of contacting Fecteau about a potential community solar project on lands owned by them, and could perhaps benefit the condominiums in the City.

7. Debrief on VECAN: *A discussion of thoughts for the future projects and direction of the committee. Phil talked about the continued need for an Energy Plan, that we will need assistance completing it, and hope to get great public input when the time comes for the work. Conor suggested also creating a micro-plan for membership needs.*

Elaine's ideas where transportation related. She spoke of the motorized V-Bike alternative (www.vbikesolutions.org) as well as just regular bicycle use. Biking is and could be a better mode of transportation, and how could the energy committee incorporate this use. She also spoke of the Way-To-Go promotion (<https://waytogovt.org>) as something we could work on. Discussion of engaging the Barre Partnership ensued, and ultimately decided we could start with the local bike shops first. Phil said he would contact V-Bike on behalf of the committee for information.

Conor stated that one of his take-aways was how to energize our committee, said that perhaps collaborating with other municipal energy committees might be good so there is a wider networking ability. Tim said that CVMC might be a good point of contact as they are instituting

many energy initiatives. Elaine had some names of people interested that she gave to Conor.

In summary, our priority is the solar campaign and gearing up for the workshop in February; then Biking / Transportation, which we will have on future agendas beginning in March or April.

How and what do we do to make this successful? With February as our solar workshop, we will be asking Rural VT if they have such a thing as a “Campaign in a Box” so that we aren’t recreating work and templates that are already out there. Second is to concentrate on the residential solar aspect. 1) community solar (rooftop or other facility); 2) residential solar; and 3) employer owned community solar.

8. Debrief on first Winter Workshop Button Up

Conor and Elaine spoke of our first Button Up workshop held last month, the good, the bad, the improvements they saw could be done. There were nine (9) participants of the workshop. Talk of getting a sandwich board sign took place, as well as how to set up and engage people at the Dec. 13th.

9. Adjourn – motion to adjourn by Phil and seconded by Conor at 7:22 pm.