

To be approved at the November 25, 2019 meeting

**Barre City Energy Committee
Meeting minutes from October 28, 2019**

Committee members present: Elaine Wang, Phil Cecchini, Conor Teal, Romni Palmer

Absent: None

Staff Present: Janet Shatney

Visitors: Fred Pond, Deb Sachs

1. **Call to order:** 5:30 pm
2. **Changes to the Agenda:** none
3. **Visitors and Communications:** None
4. **Approve meeting minutes for August 26 and September 30, 2019:** A motion was made by P. Cecchini and seconded by R. Palmer to approve the August 26, 2019 minutes. Discussion occurred that E. Wang had not yet read them to make the adjustments that she wanted to, therefore no vote occurred. A motion was made by P. Cecchini and seconded by C. Teal to approve the September 30, 2019 minutes, motion carried unanimously with R. Palmer abstaining.
5. **Discuss plans for Button-Up with Mr. Fred Pond:** Fred Pond, another energy community champion was present. E. Wang stated for the group that he is willing to do the house party portion of Button-Up, and must be done by the end of November, but we will do it when we can. Discussion over event date and time, and landed on Saturday, Dec. 14 from 10 am to 11:30 am, with energy committee members arriving around 9:30 am to help get set up. E. Wang and P. Cecchini will be present.

He owns a 1905 built home with new insulation, in ceiling, sills and walls, sill, solar, heat pump technology, water heater heat pump, second floor replacement windows, first floor storm picture window, and has 18 solar panels, Green Mountain Power NEST thermometer. Will do finalizing work at next meeting on November 28. Need to be sure Mr. Pond is invited to the next meeting.
6. **Discuss priorities for community engagement for energy plan with Consultant:** laid out priorities, areas versus initiatives. This means specific locations, and what would be the things we want to get done.
 - Community engagement – and what are we going to do?
 - Objective: why are we doing this and do we want to get substantial deference?
 - Why would Barre City want/need substantial deference? There are locations like the schools, the pool, city property.
 - Its about engaging the public as strategically as possible
 - Ms. Sachs stated, need to garner trust and understanding our youth, seniors and businesses

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- A way to engage is to propose a potential problem then ask the public on how to solve
- Priority is to reduce energy use
- How do we start a movement to get an action to happen?

The conversation turned to creating surveys, how to extract information and thought processes out of individuals. An idea dump with some opportunities was talked about. There is “WayToGo, an engagement of schools and their use; Regional Planning Commission’s “Ride the Bus for a Week” campaign.

We need to seek the community with “nuggets” of information, what has happened that interests you, and facilitate it to happen. The desire is to have a stakeholders group created, and create a survey.

Outcome: in 2 weeks or so, Ms. Sachs is going to have her list of “nuggets”, or extractable information so that the committee can look it over and add to it for the next scheduled meeting, and figure out who are the stakeholders that the committee wants.

7. **Discuss status of Barre City facilities (with EVT-tentative):** Tim Perrin of Efficiency Vermont was not able to be on the phone for the meeting. The committee discussed the last energy savings diagram that Mr. Perrin had created for the City. Also, J. Shatney showed the committee the information put together for the municipal plan update, and it was good information that the committee wants to see.

ACTION: E. Wang to email City Manager about the energy projects completed to date.

ACTION: J. Shatney to add tables of energy use to the Google drive documents folder.

ACTION: J. Shatney to send to D. Sachs a copy of the municipal plan energy plan section once J. Shatney is done with it.

8. **Discuss BCEC report submission for Municipal Report:** Motion made by P. Cecchini and seconded by C. Teal to submit to the City the 2019 report from the Energy Committee, motion carried unanimously.
9. **Roundtable:** R. Palmer builds circular shaped woodpiles if anyone is interested; P. Cecchini stated VECAN is December 7, that Capstone is working on a transportation initiative helping low income residents into high mileage used vehicles.
10. **Adjourn:** motion made by R. Palmer and seconded by P. Cecchini to adjourn at 8:06 pm, motion carried unanimously.