

REGULAR BARRE CITY ENERGY COMMITTEE MEETING
Monday, October 26, 2020 at 5:30 pm
Remote Participation via ZOOM

Committee members present: Elaine Wang, Chair; Conor Teal, Vice-Chair; Phil Cecchini, Romni Palmer

Committee members absent: None

Visitors: Brad Long, Efficiency Vermont; Deb Sachs & Isabella Waldorf, EcoStrategies, LLC

1. **Call to Order:** 5:39 p.m. on the video conference platform ZOOM.
2. **Adjustments to the Agenda:** None.
3. **Visitors and Communications** (*for something not on the agenda*): None.
4. **Old Business**
 - a. **Review and approval of September 28, 2020 meeting minutes.** Motion made by P. Cecchini and seconded by R. Palmer to approve the minutes, ***motion carried unanimously.***
 - b. **Update from Efficiency Vermont.** B. Long said that he has not heard from his superiors yet if he can return to work with Barre City in 2021, he has submitted a summary to his supervisor including the notes from the Mayor, and is waiting to hear.

There are two things that he would like to tackle with the BCEC if he can return:

1. The \$4,000 municipal fund. The City didn't take advantage of this, and should this come to us again, he would like to see it utilized. There is a summary report he will get that lists some of the things that we could do with this money, like the exterior lighting at the BOR, pool pumps, etc.
2. Multi-family housing. The BCEC worked on reaching out in 2019, and gathering landlords or emailing them in bulk could help spread the word better. All members present were fine with the scope revision, noting more reasonable fundraising might be a good idea. D. Sachs noted she was technically out of budget 2 months ago, but is willing to continue, as there is much to do and be a part of. D. Sachs reiterated that she thinks a good target is still the landlords. E. Wang suggested she write something up and J. Shatney could email the landlords that she has emails to.

He is also working on a proposal to video-tape interviews with those who have done weatherization work. In addition, discussion around holding "office hours" so that people could spend time with B. Long to get answers about weatherization, and what would be the "hook" to get actual participation. Committee members are to think about this. Lastly, he informed the Committee that Efficiency Vermont reduced their

47 workforce staff by 5% last week, and have consolidated departments to adjust.

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49 c. **Button Up Check-in.** E. Wang asked if everyone was following the calendar for
50 postings. Conversation around the Efficiency Vermont Go-Fund-Me site called “*Share*
51 *the Warmth*” occurred, and if the Committee was comfortable posting their “ask”. B.
52 Long said that if the Committee wasn’t comfortable spreading the word, there was no
53 obligation to do so. There was much discussion, and ultimately was decided that if
54 committee members wanted to post, then go for it.

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56 d. **Energy Plan community engagement survey outreach.** D. Sachs has been working
57 on relationships with the schools in the area. And, continuing with accepting the
58 surveys, there were 227 as of the morning of October 26th. Cards need to be placed at
59 more locations, and I. Waldorf will create a calendar of invite reminders to keep posting
60 on FPF. She reiterated that information that could go out to landlords.

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62 **5. New Business**

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64 a. **MicroTransit.** C. Teal shared what he learned about MicroTransit, an app that is for
65 on-demand ride hailing service. It will begin in Montpelier, and eventually have a route
66 into Barre. Montpelier will do a pilot project for 2 years. More information regarding
67 MicroTransit will be forthcoming, and will be on a future agenda.

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69 6. **Adjourn.** Motion made by P. Cecchini and seconded by R. Palmer to adjourn at 7:13 p.m.

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71 There is an audio recording available, and the meeting was recorded by the video conference
72 platform.

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74 Respectfully submitted

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76 Janet E. Shatney, Planning Director