



Montpelier Energy Advisory Committee

Minutes 2/19/19

City Hall, Montpelier VT

Present: Geoff Fitzgerald, Amy Gamble, Dan Costin, Ken Jones, Barb Conrey, Jared Duval, Anne Watson, Donald deVail and Diana Chase

Meeting called to order 7:03.

1. Introductions: Diana Chase - Clean Energy States Alliance - VT Law School graduate. Hopes to join committee.
2. Approve agenda: Geoff moves to approve November minutes. Ken Jones 2nd. All approved.
3. Approve January minutes: Ken Jones moves to approve January minutes. Geoff 2nd. All approved.
4. Opportunity for public comment. No comments.
5. Updates on new strategic initiatives:

Project	Point Person
WWTP – Make biogas project happen – Geoff No report. Anne says DPW applied for a grant from the state.	GMF
Use revolving loan fund for municipal efficiency projects. Geoff reported that Fire Station snow melt system and hot water loop fixed. \$2180 to fix snow melter pipe insulation after credit. \$2700 expected annual payback. Controls will be fine tuned. Kate has potential projects on google drive. We get another \$5K from Efficiency Vermont when we roll over the fund twice. There are some bigger projects like dehumidifiers at WWTP that can't be done with revolving fund.	KS
Eliminate fossil fuel use in district heat (summer). No report	BC
Explore use of biodiesel and electric vehicles in municipal fleet. Dan and Geoff have been doing research and meeting with Eric Ladd and Tom McArdle of DPW. Bourne's Energy has agreed to put a 1000 gallon tank on DPW property and sell B20 fuel for \$3.11 per gallon. \$500 for tank installation. Renewable Diesel would be better but not available in this area. Renewable diesel has properties similar to #2 Diesel and can be used on all the diesel vehicles. Only about 5000 gallons per year for B20 ready Fords. Tom and Eric have not responded yet. Anne says maybe the next step is to put it out to bid. Talk to Steve. Ken says Transportation Climate Initiative is coming July 2020. Incentive to use less diesel.	DPC

Explore fuel switching at schools. Anne says her students are looking into biodiesel and presenting to school board. Might present in March.	BE
Reduce idling of vehicles. No update.	BEM
Hire a paid energy coordinator. Anne says paid energy coordinator in budget for 1.0 FTE. Facility director and Energy Coordinator. It is in budget to be approved by vote on town meeting day. Steve's position will probably be phased out. New position will handle district heat.	KS
Find more money (grants etc). No Report.	KJ
Finalize and get approval of city Energy Plan. Barb says this has been delayed but may be starting again this month. We had a discussion of how to prevent installation of fossil fuel heating systems. Jared says we should send a market signal early. Strategies should be outlined in Energy Plan. Anne says the city might hire a consultant for a 10 year plan. Barb will bring back details of draft plan for next meeting. Planning Commission received presentation from	BC
Develop a MEAC communications plan; Improve quality of information/on-going. No Report.	DJ
Work with city to examine ways to reduce commuter vehicles downtown. Ken Jones - Microtransit - RFP for microtransit providers from VTRANS will probably go out this summer. Maybe circulator and hospital hill routes replaced by microtransit with help from VTRANS.	DJ
Explore opportunities for expanding district heat. Ken has not talked to Bill yet.	KJ
Promote modern wood heat in community. No Report.	KJ
Encourage weatherization via Window Dressers program. Amy needs to meet with Paul Markowitz. Exploring statewide use of Window Dressers system.	AG
Engage with property owners to improve efficiency of their buildings. No Report	PM
Workshop for using biodiesel for home heating. No update. Workshop completed in September.	JD

6. Other business.

Landlord Contact: Follow-up from last meeting.

Barb Conrey - Worked with Phoebe about Landlord outreach. Letter went out the landlords. Stretch Code. What do we do with it? We apply the state energy codes. There are two codes: residential and commercial. The stretch code is only residential. It only applies to renovation that requires permit. Code is not uniformly required for existing buildings. Planned unit development may require the stretch code.

EAN's progress report on climate progress will be released March 4. Pushing stricter performance standards.

7. Adjourn. Geoff moved to adjourn. Anne seconded. Meeting adjourned 8:40.