

Marshfield Energy and Climate Change Committee  
Plainfield Energy Group  
December 7th, 2015

Attendees: Anne Miller, Lawrence Black, Joel Trupin, Nick Seifert, Michael Horowitz, Rich Phillips, Bob Atchison

Convene: 7:10 PM  
Adjourn: 8:45 PM

Draft Agenda:

- Standard committee items
  - Select a facilitator
  - Public comments
  - Review and approve minutes
  - Create draft agenda
  - Digest of Google Groups items (Anne)
- Reports on projects
  - Brainstorm feedback from other committees
  - Dan's speaker
  - Michael's distribution of items and any Twinfield progress
  - Weatherization items?
  - VECAN meeting comments
- Plainfield update

Facilitator selection:

- Lawrence Black volunteered, and was accepted by all

Public Comments:

- Rich Phillips provided a copy of an article regarding climate change for town meeting 2016. His assessment of the purpose of this document is to spur a conversation at town meeting, and to pave the way for a carbon tax article in the 2017 town meeting.
  - The draft of this article is copied as an appendix to these meeting notes.
  - Any comments on this article should be made during this meeting, added 5 minutes to this discussion to do that.
  - Michael recommended that this be couched as "fossil fuel reduction", not "climate change"
  - Nick recommended removing some antagonistic or polarizing words such as "polar ice melting"
  - Nick made a motion that the energy committee support this article and that Rich advance this article on behalf of the energy committee, with the intent of bringing this to the selectboard's December 15th meeting.
    - Seconded and passed

Agenda modifications:

- Anne to speak about whether we need a chair based on conversation with Bobbi

- Answer is no, we do not need a chair.

#### Review and approve meeting minutes

- The November meeting minutes will be reviewed at the January meeting.

#### Google groups digest

- November 12th email about Vermontivate
- Emails about carbon tax and some debates about this
- Email about GMP and statewide utility net metering cap
- Transportation related grant opportunity
  - Bob filled in some details on the grant history
  - Anne wondering if this is something that we can pull together for the Dec. 18th pre-meeting?
  - Given the due dates no one on the energy committee is able to take this on.
  - Michael is willing to make some phone calls to see if there are other people who might be interested in this

#### Brainstorm updates:

- No update from Library commission yet, will check with them in January as requested.
- No update from the planning commission yet, will check with them.
- Conservation brought in a speaker about Big Cats, and is planning to have another speaker about changes in season / climate.
- Plainfield conservation commission took this up, but not sure if they did anything. Also needs to follow up with Will from the planning commission.

#### Speaker:

- Dan wants to bring Brian Tokar to speak in Marshfield.
- Anne is providing an update on this
  - Dan is traveling now.
  - Anne had suggested that Dan turn this into a series.
  - No update from Dan about where this is right now.

#### Michael's distribution of items and any Twinfield progress:

- Bob discussed past actions taken and some of his history on the facilities committee at twinfield
- Bob is going to change the VECAN email address so that it goes to the google groups email address.
- Bob to continue to distribute items he gets that are interesting to the google groups
- Michael to distribute items that you get that are interesting to the google group
- Michael would be a point of contact for other or new organizations and forward along information as needed.
- Michael to Contact Norm Etkind and get an update on Twinfield, as well as Charlie Wanza at Twinfield to get an update on what is going on there.

#### Weatherization:

- Bob has done 1 HEV, has 3 more scheduled
- Bob is buying a cell-phone add on IR camera

#### VECAN meeting comments:

- Anne asked if the Committee is OK with being reimbursed at the federal rate for driving to VECAN. The committee is OK with this.
- Bob talked about the financing session, and said it was the most interesting. The finance office for the state of VT is saying they're willing to provide a clearinghouse and source of information for funding for efficiency and energy projects.
- PACE has dropped the \$500 fee to fund a "reneg" account, they now only have a \$25 admin fee. VSECU will be offering a loan for this. Efficiency vt is promoting a weatherization loan for that work. VSECU will have a business energy loan available soon.
- Bob to email some items to John to post on the website.
- Montpelier has a net zero energy plan group that is talking about removing parking spaces. (side note)
- Michael mentioned an interest in regional energy groups/committees to foster cross-pollination of ideas and activities.

#### Plainfield update:

- Additional Electric vehicle charging grants received, total monies are now \$2000.
  - Working on having Positive Pi allow free wi-fi to check on the status of your car's charge.
  - the charging pole is in, one parking space will be carved out for this.

#### Executive committee:

- Closed session.

#### Draft agenda for January meeting:

- Standard committee items
  - Select a facilitator
  - Public comments
  - Review and approve minutes
  - Modify or add agenda items
  - Create draft agenda for next meeting
- Reports on projects
  - Digest of Google Groups items (Anne)
  - Update on community transportation grant
  - Brainstorm feedback from other committees
  - Dan's speaker
  - Michael's distribution of items and any Twinfield progress
  - Weatherization items?

- VECAN meeting comments
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### Climate Change Town Meeting Article

To see if the voters will approve the following:

Whereas, the earth's temperature is rising rapidly, extreme weather events are occurring with increasing frequency and polar ice is melting at an increasing rate.

Whereas, scientists largely agree the temperature rise is primarily related to the combustion of fossil fuels and unless these emissions are cut substantially we will leave to future generations a much less desirable place to live.

Whereas, Marshfield town government and its various committees have the ability to effect the reduction of fossil fuel use through decisions about town infrastructure and operations, through education and assistance to residents to reduce their fossil fuel use and through implementing climate sensitive requirements in land use regulations

Resolved, all elements of Marshfield's government and committees should take all responsible actions within their respective subject areas and in collaboration with others to reduce fossil fuel use by the town's operations and by its residents

Further Resolved, the Select Board or its designee shall provide a report on progress under this resolution in the 2016 town report.