

Marshfield Energy and Climate Change Committee
Plainfield Energy Group
February 1st, 2016

Attendees: Anne Miller, Joel Trupin, Nick Seifert, Bob Atchison, Dan Chodocoff

Convene: 7:15 PM

Adjourn:

Draft Agenda for February meeting:

- Standard committee items
 - Select a facilitator
 - Public comments
 - Review and approve minutes - 2
 - Modify or add agenda items and add times 2
 - Create draft agenda for next meeting - 5
- Reports on projects
 - Discussion about thoughts on what to do if the petitioned item passes, and what can be done? 15-20 min
 - Digest of Google Groups items (Anne) - 10
 - Brainstorm feedback from other committees - N/A for this meeting
 - Dan's speaker - 10-15 minutes
 - Michael's distribution of items and any Twinfield progress - N/A for this meeting
 - Weatherization items - N/A for this meeting
- Plainfield update - 10 minutes

Standard Committee items:

- Select a facilitator
 - Anne Miller to facilitate
 - Bob to keep time
- Public comments
 - No members of the public
- Review and approve minutes
 - Anne corrected the spelling of Charlie Wanzer's name
 - Motioned to approve the minutes from January
- Modify the agenda or add items
 - Rutland proposal related to town involvement in siting of solar systems - 5 minutes
- Create draft agenda
 - will do this at the end of the meeting

Report on Projects:

- Discussion of petition for town meeting related to climate change and town action

- Dan mentioned that instead of punitive enforcement the town could incentivize behavior that was to this end.
- Nick read from the town plan from 2012. There is an Energy section which lays out particular goals, as well as issue specific strategies
- Anne asked for interest in speaking at town meeting in favor of the petition. She also suggested getting other volunteers who would be willing to speak.
 - Nick to speak with Melissa about this
 - Anne to speak with Gary Leach about this
- Google group items:
 - Climate economy summit at VTC on 2/22. Numerous interesting speakers and subjects.
 - There is a grant for EV chargers available from the state which Marshfield could apply for.
 - Dan said he would take a look at the grant and see how involved it is.
 - Anne discussed some of the specifics of the comprehensive energy plan.
 - Joel asked about current sources of energy for Marshfield, and if we know what percentage is from which source.
 - Some discussion about this.
 - Discussion about an email from Richard Lashoons about Marshfield possibly requiring new building to be Net Zero or something similar.
- Speaker discussion - Brian Tokar
 - Dan discussed having Brian Tokar as a speaker in Marshfield to discuss climate issues. Suggested as having this towards the end of February.
 - Dan also suggested showing the film This Changes Everything, and possibly having a discussion or panel afterwards.
 - This could be a joint Marshfield and Plainfield event, possibly at Goddard, or the town hall, or some other location.
 - Anne mentioned that Sue Morris will be back with another event at the haybarn (goddard).
 - Dan also mentioned having the group Rising Tide to speak at an event.
- Plainfield update
 - Weatherization
 - Not much going on, but has a couple visits going on.
 - Ideas for the carbon tax include some percentage going to low income weatherization.
 - Bob is purchasing an IR camera attachment for a smartphone so they can do IR photos when they do home energy visits.
 - EV charging base / equipment has been given to the town electrician to install. Hoping she can get it installed soon.
 - Bob has heard that Goddard has been approved for a loan for their wood burning plant.
 - Bob saw This Changes Everything at the UU church basement in Montpelier. Bob commented on a takeaway from the film for him which was that people who feel disempowered often have power to influence things.
 - Bob commented on some of the thoughts and ideas that were raised in the discussion after the film.

- Discussion about the Rutland petition related to siting of renewable energy plants
 - Bob discussed that in 2015 Rutland Town had a petition which was brought up and passed in a VT legislative bill. This changed siting rules related to solar panels.
 - Nick read the resolution which Rutland sent last year.
 - Discussion about what legislative bill was actually passed.
 - Dan suggested this is not an issue for discussion by the EC, as it is sort of moot.
- Town meeting table or activities
 - Bob discussed the things that he often has in Plainfield.
 - Pictures of solar, town hall, and other projects completed
 - Gadgets used during home energy visits
 - Marshfield could use:
 - Graphs from solar arrays in Marshfield
 - Anne is willing to talk to the bus company about getting free tickets for rides. Bob suggested that these could be given away or raffled off.
 - The committee is OK with spending some amount of money on these tickets. Around \$20-\$50
 - Town report statistics, numbers, etc
 - Solar sites around town was used last year, Rich may still have this

Agenda for March

- Standard committee items
 - Select a facilitator
 - Public comments
 - Review and approve previous meeting minutes
 - Modify or add agenda items and add times
 - Digest of Google Groups items (Anne)
 - Create draft agenda for next meeting
- Project reports
 - Town meeting report
 - Discussion about comprehensive energy plan and what the Energy Committee can do about it.
 - Report with highlights from anyone who attended Better Building by Design or Vermont Climate Economy Summit
 - Brainstorm feedback from other committees
 - Series on Climate Justice (Dan)
 - Michael's distribution of items and any Twinfield progress
 - Weatherization items
 - Plainfield update