

**TOWN OF UNDERHILL  
ENERGY COMMITTEE MINUTES DRAFT  
Underhill Town Hall  
6:30 P.M. Wednesday Oct. 9, 2019**

**In Attendance:**

- Peter Bennett (PB), Nicole Bourassa (NB), Steve Webster (SW), Dwight Decoster (DD), Michael Oman (MO)

**Meeting Called to Order:** 6:31 pm

**Public Comment Period**

- No public in attendance

**Review/Approve Minutes from Sep. 11, 2019**

- PB moved to accept minutes, all approved

**Discussion**

Solar Array Update

- Negotiations between Select Board (SB) and Green Lantern Group (GLG) around SB wanting a deposit for decommissioning of the array
- Wording may be needed in contract to deal with case of array being “abandoned” by GL or owner of system, Town of Underhill takes over operation of array
- SB to have a meeting with town lawyer to review new language
- CPG has yet to be processed → backlog of CPGs

Vermont Electric Co-op (VEC) follow-up

- MO inquired more about SHEI and exactly what it is
- SW suggested we publicize VEC’s energy programs
- DD suggested we put programs on the resource page of website
- PB would like to see VEC offer a storage program (e.g. Powerwall) → BUT, as was discussed last month, VEC sees as not cost-effective for their members
- MO discussed Transportation and Climate Initiative (TCI) that the state is exploring and if any revenue streams from that could support capital needed for storage program at VEC ( storage offers a great way for peak-shaving)

Working with Jericho Energy Task Force and Button up: next steps

- DD coordinating with Catherine McMains re the Button Up program; addressed major change in program → limiting to only 500 homes → to be conducted by Efficiency VT staff; VEIC has unspent funds → exploring ways to utilize this
- PB moved that DD be official liaison with Jericho for coordination with Button Up program, all approved
- MO asks if we should investigate more coordination by occasional meetings with them
- Partner with them on other events too → movie night , etc
- MO: how else to keep the interactions going; build something more formal, share agendas/meeting minutes, trade time at meetings, do on an ad hoc basis...
- For now, MO to stay on top of both town activities in his communications with Catherine McMains, and PB suggested we review unique opportunities on a case by case basis

- PB moved to designate MO as chief liaison with JETF to explore opportunities for collaborations, all approved

#### Town energy plan

- MO has read and made notes on it → based on CCRPC's latest comments
- SW nominates MO to put comments in, MO agreed
- PB suggests we review and send comments to MO in a Google doc for him to insert in Word doc to send on to Andrew/Planning Commission. PB to follow up with Andrew for what final date is to finalize to Planning Commission.

#### Website

- Postponed

### **Committee operations**

#### Committee membership issues

- PB moved that the UEC thank Gerry Adams for his considerable contributions to the energy committee's work over many years, all approved
- DD asks if we have any gaps in knowledge/disciplined skill set on UEC that could be useful
- Could use someone with communications skills/background? More around PR and Marketing?
- All to think on this

#### Next meeting – Nov 13, 2019

- Budget
  - Need to think about budget for the coming year; currently have \$1000
  - DD suggests we could purchase a blower door and infrared camera? Blower door is about \$3600; infrared camera about \$3000; another option at about \$600
  - DD to research pricing more
  - DD suggested if had to pick one over the other, go with blower door
  - SW thinks worth getting and using in the community to conduct energy audits for free

#### Other

- Invite Green Mountain Power to discuss same topics discussed with VEC?
  - Who do we talk to for invitation? PB to reach out.
- DD: should we include invitation to VEIC? General consensus is yes...
- PB: should we work more closely with Alternative Transportation committee? MO suggests that we stick to EVs for our focus
- DD shared info about the "Food for Thought" series. UEC might harness the energy he has experienced in this series to bring to bear on some UEC projects. DD will approach organizers to explore

### **Meeting Adjourned 8:00 PM**

- MO moved to adjourn, so moved, all approved

**Submitted by Nicole Bourassa**