

Minutes

Branford Clean Energy Ad Hoc Committee September 27, 2021

Attending, Shirley McCarthy, Bob Babcock, Greg Ames, Bill Horne, Sharon Huttner, Eunice Mahler, Dan Rabin, Mike Cohen, John Prins

Minutes were approved (1 abstention since not present last meeting) with a motion by Greg Ames and seconded by Bob Babcock

EV's: Sharon Huttner informed us of an energy event in Hamden. Hamden has a contract with First Student for one electric bus. Sharon will be attending an EV event in Middletown. Sharon informed us that a dual charging station conduit will be installed at the Animal Shelter that is being paid for by a grant. She also told us there is a lot of interest to install charging stations, examples at our Fire Station, Community House, and Pasta Cosi. Additional information can be found on the state D.A.S. site.

Solar for All. 23 families have responded to the program. Eunice Mahler reminded us that the program will stop on October 31 this year. Eunice passed out information for us to inform others about the program. The kW for families will be available in the aggregate.

Energy Efficiency Business. Due to vacations, the month has been slow. Bob Babcock informed us there will be contact with Eversource in the upcoming week to get back on track.

Energy Efficiency Land Trust. We were informed that there was a productive meeting set up by Greg Ames with the Branford Land Trust regarding increasing the efficiency of their buildings. The buildings mentioned are on School St and Red Hill Rd. The first step will be to have an Energy Audit performed by Joe Roy of CMC in Wallingford. There also is a concern regarding the preservation of the buildings. John Herzan attended the first meeting to offer insight to preserving the buildings style.

Energy Proclamation Day. Some projects are moving forward. Joe Carbone representing the schools is on target and working hard to make the program successful.

Much time was spent on "Retro Commissioning" buildings. The High School was discussed at length. Eversource will be paying for the entire

project. It was discussed to apply this to all of Branford's buildings. Bob Evens of Eversource recommends a comprehensive study.

Town Buildings Long Term. Greg Ames "Long Term Buildings" discussion implies a 20-year net zero goal. Bill Horne and Greg have worked on a program for Branford's buildings.

New Business. Guest Bob Barnett, an Architect in Branford presented a very interesting concept, Geo-Exchange, which uses earth wells to create comfortable temperatures in buildings. Retrofitting is expensive and difficult however if this can be brought into the original design of a building it makes more sense. A 35 thousand square foot building is a good size to consider. An example of this is the library in Madison. It was brought up for Elena Cahill and Greg Ames to get together to discuss further.

Public Comment. Wayne Cook handed out a pamphlet outlining the Animal Shelter. Discussion with Carolyn Sires on osprey nest atop utility pole and more committee publicity.

Adjourned, unanimous, Motion by Bob seconded by Greg at 6:10 PM