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Clean Energy Ad Hoc Committee Minutes 8/14/19

Present: Greg Ames, Bob Babcock, Bill Horne, Shirley McCarthy, Rick Saltz

Absent: Elena Cahill, Marshall Cox, Chris Lenda, Sharon Huttner

Guests: David and Marjorie Schneider

Old Business:

1. The minutes of 7/24/2019 were approved unanimously on a motion by B. Babcock, seconded by G. Ames
2. Tabor Solar Field visit was held 8/9. To follow up:
 - B. Babcock will arrange a drone shoot and B. Horne will pursue Tesla for full year statistics and assemble data for a press release. S. McCarthy will contact Trista Milici about who are the contacts in a press release.
 - We will explore the possibility of adding another field to power school buildings.
3. Shirley collected and assembled suggestions for Superintendent of Schools, J. Cosgrove, J. Finch meeting.
4. CCM told B. Babcock there are no requirements for renewable energy in the building code. Town ordinances for same are possible, the committee will look into this in the future.
5. Clean energy plan:
 - Shirley noted that clean energy is recommended and supported in the POCD.
 - Greg will draft an outline for committee review.
 - Shirley will ask J. Cosgrove about adoption/approval process.
 - We will look for a way to facilitate public participation in drafting the plan (similar to the POCD process?).
 - Writing could be shared among committee members but generating the actual document, especially if graphics will be extensive, requires expertise not found on the committee. If that duty is assumed by a town staff person, maintenance and updating could be ongoing and consistent. Per J. Cosgrove, David McCarthy can make the document user friendly and attractive, like the PCOD.
6. Discussed agenda for EV subgroup meeting with J. Cosgrove this Monday at 10.
7. Choate campus field trip will be after Labor; Day Rick will provide possible dates.
8. Based on David and Marjorie Schneiders' suggestion, S. McCarthy and B. Horne watched the National Geographic documentary "Paris to Pittsburgh" and liked it. Living Wisely may be an option; B. Horne will ask them or once we have a public meeting, it could be shown at a subsequent one.
9. G. Ames will pursue a date for the meeting with J. Cosgrove about the Honeywell energy conservation project.
10. Discussed PACE HeatSmart initiative, a proposed program to promote high efficiency air to air heat pumps for residential and small commercial buildings. The committee was impressed with and supportive of the program but did not feel we were in a position to compete for selection as a sponsoring municipality this year, given the late notice and 9/6/19 deadline. Shirley will explain to PACE why we are declining the offer this year and express our interest in maintaining an ongoing relationship with PACE as well as being added to the CT Clean Energy Network list.

11. The committee received a proposal from an individual named Bryan Fitzgerald for a virtual net metering program utilizing a remote solar field somewhere in Connecticut (Verogy). Shirley will invite him to attend the next meeting on 8/28 to give a short (30 minute) presentation and will invite J. Cosgrove and J. Finch to attend at a later date, pending committee's thoughts.
12. Legacy Theater contacted Bill about their interest in incorporating renewable energy in their Thimble Islands Road restoration of the Puppet house building. B. Horne is following up with them and has invited G. Ames to help.
13. Shirley will poll the committee members to find the best days/times for Fall meetings. There was a consensus that the amount of activity warrants continuing to meet twice a month.
14. Next meeting will be Wednesday August 28 at Canoe Brook.
15. B. Babcock moved adjournment, B. Horne seconded, approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Greg Ames