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Clean Energy Ad Hoc Committee Meeting Minutes 2/24/20, 5:00-6:00 pm

Present: Greg Ames, Bob Babcock, Marshall Cox (left at 5:30), Bill Horne, Shirley McCarthy

Absent: Elena Cahill, Sharon Huttner

Guests: Michael Cohen, Donna Laich, Dan Rabin

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TOWN OF BRANFORD
BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT

1. Bob Babcock moved to approve the minutes of 2/10/20, Bill Horne seconded; motion passed unanimously.
2. The committee discussed the Feb 19 presentation at the Living Wisely & Well series. The presentation was well received and it was the sense of the committee that it would be valuable to make the presentation to other groups, e.g., the Rotary Club, etc., to communicate what the committee and the Town are doing to achieve 100% renewable energy as soon as possible. Bob Babcock reported talking with Frank Carrano about working with Branford Gets Fresh.
3. Michael Cohen reported that he is still waiting for the Town Attorney to finalize the HeatSmart Memorandum of Understanding with People's Action for Clean Energy (PACE).
4. Greg Ames updated the committee on the status of the acquisition of the Town's first battery-powered electric vehicle (BEV). Contrary to recollections that money was available for the purchase, currently we have heard that funding is being put in the budget for next year. There was a brief discussion about understanding the schedule and process for developing and approving the Town budgets. There was a brief discussion of which other departments might be needing a new vehicle in the near future. Shirley McCarthy reported that there will be an "electric vehicle show and tell" at the Town Green on April 25 in conjunction with the town and river cleanup day as well as a recycling agenda. Also note that on March 5 there is a CT DEEP workshop on municipal collaboration on fleet electrification at DEEP Headquarters, 79 Elm St, Hartford and there is also a webinar for those who do not want to drive.
5. The committee discussed the Transportation section of the draft Energy Plan, filling in some blanks and removing several items from the template that people felt were not applicable to Branford. A transportation committee, as in the POCD, is needed.
6. New Business:
 - The committee discussed how it might better interact with the Public Building Committee to incorporate renewable energy into Town building renovations and construction generally.
 - It was suggested that the committee put out a press release that lists financial incentives for residents and businesses to increase energy efficiency and install renewable energy systems. E. Cahill will speak to the Economic Development Committee about this topic on 3/19/20/.
 - Bob Babcock suggested that the committee invite an energy auditor that he knows to speak to the committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm.