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Clean Energy Committee minutes June 23, 2020

Members present: Shirley McCarthy, Greg Ames, Bob Babcock, Marshall Cox, John Prins, Sharon Huttner, Bill Horne, Elena Cahill

Guests: Mike Cohen, Eunice Mahler, Dan Rabin, Wayne Cooke

1. The minutes of 6/08/2020 were approved; motion by Sharon Huttner, second by Bob Babcock, unanimously approved.
2. Energy Plan was discussed and the concept of a VFD drive, Variable Frequency Drives was explained by Elena Cahill. A discussion took place regarding a way to best determine the number of solar systems in Branford. Motion made by Bob Babcock and seconded by John Prins to approve the Energy Plan as presented, unanimously approved.
3. Green Bank solar update included a discussion regarding a Car Port configuration at the High School; John Prins reported that the principal does not want it. Additional discussion will occur with The Green Bank regarding the High School solar.
4. EV School Bus update included a discussion as to how we can best get grant dollars for our EV Bus program. Hamden school system was discussed regarding contacting their Energy manager, Kathleen Schomaker, regarding working with First Student.
5. HeatSmart opportunity was discussed regarding possible insurance requirements of PACE by the town of Branford.
6. Elena described the 75% Connecticut Incentive program now available.
7. Shirley McCarthy informed the committee that Elena Cahill is now a member of Branford's Economic Development committee.
8. A "Green Building" discussion included a description by Greg Ames as to how we can better inform the town of this concept. Greg and Bill Horne had a very productive meeting with Jamie Cosgrove on this topic. Greg informed us that the Public Building Commission will also be involved. Additionally, there was a discussion by John Prins involving the thoughts of landscaping, better tree usage, etc that can support carbon offsets for better design criteria.
9. Regarding outside assistance / consultants, Greg Ames will be drafting a document for the qualifications for a consultant to work with us.
10. Shirley McCarthy informed us that the town has hired a Sustainability person with energy experience.
11. New Business
  - a. We discussed at the direction of Dan Rabin to consider a "Logo" for our committee. This was thought by everyone to be a good idea. A discussion continued as to how to best implement a contest / program to proceed. Dan will coordinate and present back to the committee.