

RECEIVED

2023 MAY 24 A 9:32

Clean Energy Ad hoc Committee Minutes 5/22/23

Present: Greg Ames, Tyler Bowne, Mike Cohen, Adrian Corry, James Killelea, Donna Laich, Eunice Mahler, Shirley McCarthy, John Prins, Dan Rabin

BRANFORD TOWN CLERK

Absent: Bob Babcock, Elena Cahill, Sharon Huttner

1. Tyler Bowne: battery update:
  - a. Battery project – CCM has a no cost battery program for a large battery that could go to 3 locations: Wastewater Treatment, Middle School, or High School.
  - b. Waiting to allow newly hired school superintendent to weigh in on the decision.
  - c. Tyler and John will meet tomorrow to work on a plan to get the schools to follow up.
  
2. Eunice Mahler: PowerSmart campaign:
  - a. Looking for events to promote PowerSmart (Branford Festival is already a go). They will be answering questions about PowerSmart at these events.
  - b. Eunice asked if people might be willing to post a PowerSmart ad on their car with a QR code to spread information.
  - c. We brainstormed ideas of how to get the word out to the community.
  
3. Greg Ames: Net zero:
  - a. Greg said net 0 bldgs. are difficult to get to: people using the bldg. need to be educated; bldgs need to be tested and functioning up to date.
  - b. Greg gave an example of radiant panels (animal shelter) not being used properly. Bldg. users need to understand how to operate everything correctly and efficiently.
  
4. Dan Rabin: HeatSmart2:
  - a. We do not have any new information about our grant status right now.
  - b. Direct mailings – Dan has a master list from East Haven and Branford. There are letters queued up and ready to go.
  - c. Mike has been working on the website.
  
5. Adrian Corry: Town website; Leaf blowers:
  - a. Mike and Adrian will get together, so they are on the same page about what needs to be done next.
  - b. Kate Galambos and Adrian prepared a draft ordinance that was submitted to Rules and Ordinances. Unfortunately, Rules and Ordinances reviewed this document without having a spokesperson in support of this ordinance.
  - c. The idea of rewarding the landscapers that do use electric leaf blowers was raised.
  - d. The companies that make the electric leaf blowers could be a good resource.
  - e. We should seek a good electric blower for demos at our table at the Branford Festival.

6. John Prins: Schools:

- a. Solar projects at the elementary schools are on hold until parts come in. He said we are close to flipping the switch.
- b. Shirley asked about putting solar on the high school when the roof gets replaced (scheduled for 2024-2025) – John suggested we draft a letter to the board regarding this.

7. New Business:

- a. D. Rabin made a motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. Laich. The minutes were unanimously approved.
- b. Adrian will look to see if he can locate a good electric blower to show at the festival.
- c. Dan mentioned Earth Day – suggesting we get more people and ideas involved.
- d. John asked if we can possibly have our booth next to the Land Trust booth at the Branford Festival. Shirley will look into it.
- e. John made a motion to adjourn @ 5:06, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Michael – unanimously approved.