

Energy and Climate Action Committee Meeting

Minutes – 2/6/2024

Virtual Meeting

Meeting Start: 5:02pm

Committee Members Present: Michael DeChiara, Gail Fleischaker, Isaac Goldstein, Nate Heard

Committee Members Absent: None

Public: None

Agenda review; confirm next minute-taker: Isaac

Review of Stretch Code FAQs

Committee members discussed the Stretch Code FAQs and suggested edits. Nate pledged to write up a blurb to accompany the posting of the FAQ on the committee web page.

Stretch code meeting logistics

The committee reviewed roles and responsibilities for the public session on building codes, which will take place on Monday, February 26.

- Michael will host the zoom call and welcome everyone
- Gail will manage participants, especially if we have a virtual waiting room
- Nate will briefly frame the issue and introduce the guest speakers, Chris Mason and his colleague
- Chris and his colleague will give a presentation
- Michael will facilitate a Q&A
- Nate and Isaac will capture ideas and questions from the audience that ECAC should consider
- Adjourn

Permission to get estimates on PV installs for town buildings

Planning solar panel installations for town buildings requires learning whether it would cost money to gain a project estimate. The Finance Committee suggested that a specific project with an attached dollar amount could provide the basis for a discussion on funding. With a project estimate in hand, ECAC could have a productive conversation with the Finance Committee, possibly with good timing for a fall Green Communities grant cycle.

Nate made a motion in support of Gail gathering information on estimate costs from PV Squared. Isaac seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously: Michael DeChiara, Aye; Gail Fleischaker, Aye; Isaac Goldstein, Aye; Nate Heard, Aye

Community Choice Aggregation status

Nate wrote a two-pager for the Selectboard that communicates ECAC's recommendation of Colonial Power Group to be Shutesbury's CCA consultant. The document summarizes ECAC's reasoning and includes testimonials from people in neighboring towns that have worked with Colonial.

Electric car charger status

At 5:30, Selectboard member Eric Stocker joined the meeting. Livingston Energy approached Shutesbury about installing electric vehicle chargers at little to no cost to the town. However National Grid has published a list of many contractors that provide this service and Livingston Energy is but one of them.

Isaac will collaborate with Eric Stoker on a list of questions with which we can approach EV charging station vendors about services they might provide the town. Gail will review the list of qualified vendors to get contact information and to see if there are obvious ways we might narrow the selection.

Closing

Michael will circulate potential dates for the next meeting. Isaac had to leave the call, thereby ending quorum, before we could vote to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Nate Heard