



**Minutes for Town of Pawlet Energy Group
Pawlet, VT
Monday, March 27, 2017, 2:00 PM
Town Hall Conference Room**

Members Present:

Elizabeth Gibson, egib@vermontel.net
Nancy Morlino, nancvm259@aol.com

Members Absent:

Harry Van Meter, hevanmeter@gmail.com
Ken Friedman, kenneth.j.friedman@gmail.com

Audience:

Frank Nelson

Others Copied:

Deb Hawkins, pawletclerk@vermontel.net

Purpose of Meeting: To foster discussion of topics relevant to the awareness of energy use, efficiency and conservation within the Town of Pawlet and to establish and promote guidelines for the implementation of the energy initiatives set down in the Town Plan.

Item 1: Meeting Minutes

The minutes from the last monthly meeting on February 27, 2017 have been distributed, corrected, and posted at the town website, <http://pawlet.vt.gov/town-offices/energy-group/>.

Item 2: Energy Fair, April 22, 2017, 1-4 PM, Town Hall Auditorium

Publicity: Elizabeth has sent out the first press release (call for presenters) to local papers, the Town website, and Facebook. She will send out a second press release (general info about the fair) this week. Elizabeth will also contact other local energy groups, VECAN, etc. Nancy has distributed posters and asked Frank Nelson to put some additional posters around West Pawlet. Nancy will also take care of VPR, local TV and WhoFish.org. The day of the event, we'll have a sandwich board out on the Route 30 bridge by the Pawlet PO (Nancy).

Presenters: We will have six speakers in the downstairs conference room at the Town Hall:

- 1:00 PM, Efficiency Vermont
- 1:30 PM, Alan Benoit, sustainable architect, designing net zero homes
- 2:00 PM, Steven Letendre, Green Mountain College, evaluating home solar systems
- 2:30 PM, Bill Laberge, Grassroots Solar, Dorset
- 3:00 PM, Alan Betts, climate scientist, Pittsford
- 3:30 PM, Bhima Nitta, Power Guru of Southern Vermont

Pawlet Energy Group Meeting Notes

March 27, 2017 @ 12:00 PM

Page 2 of 2

We'll suggest each speak for 20 minutes, with five minutes for questions/discussion. Nancy will provide screen and projector.

The upstairs auditorium will be for any student displays (Mettawee Community School, Green Mountain College), and all other displays: GMP, Efficiency Vermont, users/consumers, etc.

Logistics: The three members of the energy group who will be attending – Elizabeth, Nancy, Harry – will man the various spaces, two people upstairs and one downstairs in the conference room. Elizabeth offered to supply cider and cookies; she will also check with the Select Board about the cleaning schedule for the auditorium. Nancy will see that LED bulbs are installed in the auditorium. We will have a sign-in table and basket for donations upstairs (and probably downstairs). We will develop a list of other supplies to check on as we get closer to the date.

Item 3: Solar Proposal for Town Landfill

This project is on hold until after the energy fair. Bill Laberge might be available to help us write the RFP and evaluate proposals. Frank Nelson mentioned that some residents of West Pawlet are interested in the community solar model because they don't have favorable solar conditions on their own properties.

Item 4: Miscellaneous

Nancy suggested we think about forming some kind of regional energy group with nearby communities as a way of pooling resources. Elizabeth is thinking about how to develop a closer working relationship with the Select Board.

Item 4: Next Meeting

We agreed to hold one more meeting before the energy fair, sometime before April 15, date to be determined. The next regular monthly meeting would then be Monday, May 22, 2017, 12 PM, at the Town Hall. The agenda for that meeting will be:

- Review minutes from last meeting (5 minutes)
- Old business: Spring energy fair, landfill solar site (30 minutes)
- New business: (10 minutes)
- Audience (10 minutes)

Minutes submitted by Elizabeth Gibson