



Minutes for Town of Pawlet Energy Group
Pawlet, VT
Monday, June 26, 2017, 12:00 PM
Town Hall Conference Room

Members Present:

Harry Van Meter, Town Energy Coordinator, hevanmeter@gmail.com

Elizabeth Gibson, egib@vermontel.net

Ken Friedman, kenneth.j.friedman@gmail.com

Nancy Morlino, nancym259@aol.com

Members Absent:

Audience:

Frank Nelson, West Pawlet

Others Copied:

Deb Hawkins, pawletclerk@vermontel.net

Purpose of Energy Group: An informal group that: supports the town energy coordinator; promotes awareness of energy use, efficiency and conservation within the Town of Pawlet; and helps implement the energy initiatives set down in the Town Plan.

Item 1: Meeting Minutes

The minutes from the last monthly meeting on May 22, 2017 have been distributed and posted at the town website, <http://pawlet.vt.gov/town-offices/energy-group/>.

Item 2: Old Business – Landfill Solar Site

The goal of any project at this site would be to maximize the benefit to the townspeople, which means examining the various financial models to determine how this can best be accomplished. The energy group will research the options and make a recommendation to the Select Board before drafting an RFP. First we will consult with the Select Board time to be sure that everyone is in agreement about committing to this effort. Nancy and Elizabeth would then write a summary of the various financial models.

Item 3: Old Business – PACE program (Property Assessed Clean Energy)

We need to update the status of the PACE program for encouraging homeowners to make energy improvements and also get an update on what other financial incentives are available. This information then needs to be made available to community residents. Elizabeth will pull this update together, including what VSECU offers (Vermont State Employees' Credit Union).

Item 4: New Business – Pawlet Energy Fair 2018

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We talked about the timing for the fair – winter and early spring are quieter with less competing events, but not as many people are around that time of year. We also discussed weekends vs. weekdays and decided that weekends were probably better in terms of the audience, although not so good for the participating organizations such as Efficiency VT, Green Mountain Power, and NeighborWorks of Western Vermont. Another consideration would be whether to join this event with another event such as Art on the Green.

A budget for the fair and the group generally would be helpful, so that we could pay for supplies and materials and perhaps offer the speakers an honorarium. We will talk about this further and ask the Select Board about having an energy group expense as a line item in the general fund for next fiscal year.

Item 5: Next Meeting

The next regular monthly meeting will be Monday, July 24, 2017, 12 PM, at the Town Hall. The agenda for that meeting will be:

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

Minutes submitted by Elizabeth Gibson