

Town of Guilford

Energy Committee Meeting Notes—Draft

6:00 pm Thursday December 17, 2020 via zoom call

Call to order: 6:05 pm

Energy Committee Members Present: Nancy Detra, Gary Swindler, Thayer Tomlinson, Ann Zimmerman

Recognition of Public

Energy Committee Member Updates:

- Can we submit a budget to the town? Through Planning Commission budget – what do we want to ask for? We asked for \$250 last year and can do so this year. Thayer asked the Planning Commission chair to renew the budget.
- Town Plan update – We'd like to continue looking into creating an enhanced energy plan and doing a much more comprehensive energy plan for the town overall. Ann suggested we provide a town meeting update on our energy plan depending on what happens with the Town Meeting.
- Committee report for Town Report – submitted to the Town. Thayer wrote it and Nancy reviewed.
- New proposed energy policy for WSESD – move towards electric school buses and greater energy efficiency in school district. Nancy can follow up with Sean Murphy who is Guilford's representative to the supervisory union – we'll discuss on the next meeting.
- Guilford Center sidewalk study: thank you and follow up – the request for a study was funded by the state. We will contact Chris to see what the next steps look like.
- VECAN Community Energy and Climate Action Conference, Dec 5-11 – report out. Chris attended a number of presentations; Nancy also attended the opening session.
- Gary gave an update on solar mapping work – he said there are 73 solar installations in Guilford ranging from 1 – 500 kW. He did an estimated amount of electricity production and looked at what our 2016 electric needs were in Guilford and estimated that the panels could offset 33% of Guilford's energy use (this does not take into account the fact that most of the credits are already sold elsewhere). Once this is complete, ensure this is available as a resource for the Town. Gary will share a draft with the committee for review. He'll also see if WRC can map this with the Green Mountain Power data so we can have some overlays on this map.
- Forest and ag soils for sequestration offsetting energy emissions for energy plans. Set back for now until we work on enhanced energy planning.
- Ann suggested we set aside time during our January meeting to plan for the year. Nancy highlighted that energy equity is very important for us to focus on for our community – how do we provide support for those who don't have funds to pay for larger investments.

Other Updates

Schedule Next Meeting: Thursday, January 28th, 2021

Close of Meeting: 7:03 pm