



Bethel Energy Committee Meeting

MINUTES _ 9/6/16

Place: Bethel Town Clerk

Time: 6:30PM

Lazo, Jose | | August 23, 2016

Present: Jose Lazo, Tim Brennan, John Fago, Kristin LaFromboise

<u>Time</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Responsibility</u>
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6:30	Home Work Review	Team
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Team had read previously and reviewed “Tackling Vermont’s Energy Challenges” document (case studies of energy programs throughout Vermont).

Lots of town programs represented, some much smaller, some much larger than Bethel. Many sizes of programs represented as well – some very small and others very ambitious.

Team expressed interest in Middlebury Unplugged, Thetford’s Historic site (single site), Water Filtration Plant with Water Power, Ripton’s Weatherization Program and other school projects, PACE incentives, A Tale of Ten Schools,

Issues: up-front capital for some projects, finding the volunteers,

Important: calculating payback times, starting small, celebrating and promoting successes, opportunity to work with the new supervisory union as the superintendent (Bruce Labs) is very supportive of energy issues.

Consensus: work with the schools or on a single site on conservation, efficiency, and sustainability.

6:40 Review Bethel Energy Plan Team

Energy	The Town should consider municipal or community-based renewable energy generation on town buildings and properly to serve town facilities.	ASAP
	The Selectboard should formerly create an Energy Committee as a Town Committee so that they may develop an Energy Action Plan as a supplement to the municipal plan and to find opportunities to reduce municipal expenses through energy efficiency and energy conservation.	ASAP
	The Town should implement energy efficiency measures recommended by the energy audits and (if formed) an Energy Committee for existing and future facilities as opportunities arise, and incorporate priority efficiency improvements (e.g., facility retrofits, renovations, and equipment upgrades) in the town's capital budget and program.	Ongoing
	The Town, with help from the Energy Committee [if formed] should develop municipal procurement and purchasing that emphasize products that are energy efficient (e.g., Energy Star) rated.	Next 2 years
	The Town should develop facility maintenance and operations policies that maximize energy efficiency while maintaining comfort levels for employees and visitors.	Next 2 years
	The Town should consider the benefits and/or drawbacks of using regional available alternative-fuels, such as biodiesel, in municipal vehicles.	Next 2 years
	The Selectboard should discuss PACE at a future meeting and decide whether the program should be placed on the ballot for Town Meeting.	Next 2 years

Fourth segment: Build policy on purchasing of new equipment, etc. for municipal buildings. Also, need guidance from Selectboard as to expectations.

Add in language..." products that are energy efficient (e.g. Energy Star) rated *and/or cleaner-running (lower carbon emissions).*"

Fifth segment: No language changes recommended.

Sixth segment: Add in language to consider electric vehicles ...
“using regional available alternative-fuels, such as biodiesel,
or electric vehicles.”

Seventh segment: We will create a short presentation about
PACE for the Selectboard and present to them before the end
of the year, in order to get that program on the ballot for
March. Jose to request time in November.

7:15 Two Rivers Presentation J. Lazo

Tabled. No time to present to board.

7:30 Goals and Objectives Team

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Bethel Energy Committee is to review, facilitate and promote projects and/or programs intended to increase the energy efficiency of Bethel's operations, town owned building and residents' homes and to promote the production of local energy from sustainable and renewable resources such as solar, wind, bio-mass, hydro-electric, geo-thermal and from other local sustainable and renewable resources.

Replace “ ... of Bethel's operations,residents' homes” with
“within the town of Bethel ...”

Add in “promote projects and/or programs intended to
increase the energy efficiency to promote the production of
local energy ... **and to inform the community of relevant
energy and efficiency opportunities.**”

To be revisited: Tim & Kristin to review Mission Statement
and Goals ... is the split correct??

7:45 Summary / Action Items

Team

Jose: to request time at a November meeting & review the biomass carbon footprint

John: to forward info re: PACE

Tim/Kristin: put a skeletal presentation together and prep to present in November & work on mission statement/goals division of ideas.

8:00 Adjourn