

**DRAFT**  
**Hartford Energy Commission minutes**  
**April 25, 2019**

**Present:** Niki Thran, Paige Greenfield, Ryan Scelza, Lynn Bohi, Fred Randall; Alan Johnson, Selectboard liaison; Geoff Martin, staff

**Minutes:** One need for re-wording was noted. Fred moved and Ryan seconded that the March minutes pass as amended. The motion passed.

**Municipal Projects**

- **Destination Electric:** Six car manufacturers are partnering with several New England states to promote electric car (EV) usage. Businesses are being asked to put a sign in their windows and have information on the program in their businesses to show they are participants and support EV usage. The businesses are within walking distance to the S. Main St Parking Lot charging station. Nine White River Jct. Businesses have signed up.
- **2019 Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment Grant:** The grant is due April 30. The two Hartford sites are the Wilder Park and Ride and the Upper Valley Aquatic Center. There is a match required. VTrans has committed to reimbursing the Town for the match for the Park and Ride. Decisions will be announced in July. Community College of Hartford (CCV) might be a good idea for the next round.
- **Flexible Load Management Pilot Project:** The Hartford Town Hall will be part of the Efficiency Vermont/GMP pilot. Efficiency Vermont (EVT) will install meters on the building's heat pumps in order to see how much power they draw compared to the rest of the building. EVT will collect and analyze the data. The program starts in July. Hartford will get a credit for reducing demand during the grid's monthly and annual peaks.
- **Fire Department Community Solar Project:** The school district selected Norwich Technologies (NT) to install 500 kW of solar to offset its electricity usage. NT applied for permits at a number of locations around Hartford, and the Fire Department roof received a permit as part of this project. The school district ended up using other sites for its solar array, so the Fire Department has an approved permit that is not being used. Hartford is considering partnering with a local non-profit housing authority, like Twin Pines or Vermont State Housing Authority, to use the net-metering credits to lower electricity costs for its residents. The permit expires in August.
- **Button Up Follow Up:** Geoff, Lynn, and Ryan sent emails to people who signed up for Button Up. Ryan got some responses. Ryan will continue to follow up.

**Transportation Work Group Update:**

The transportation work group presented an outline of their goals:

- Reduce single occupancy vehicle (SOV) trips
- Get 100 people to sign up on the Go! Vermont app

- Reduce vehicle miles traveled

The work group also listed priorities and actions. Some key items were:

- at the Green Drinks event in Woodstock
- Develop a bumper sticker that identifies people willing to rideshare so people can connect with neighbors or coworkers
- May 16 there is a Green Drinks in Woodstock to connect people that could potentially car pool and promote the Go! Vermont app
- There is a group working on “Curb the Car Day” on May 17
- There are two electric vehicle events in the fall. One is for individuals and one is for fleet managers

#### **Building Integrity Work Group:**

- **Building performance:** the work group is working with housing associations. Hemlock Ridge and Coach Road condo associations will be the first associations the work group works with.
- **Revolving Loan Fund:** the group planned to work with VSECU rather than set up a new program. VSECU could not immediately think of a partnership, but is open to working with HEC. The work group will do outreach around the Heat Saver loan program.
- **Net Zero Building Standards:** Erik, Lynn, and Geoff had a phone call with Efficiency Vermont (EVT). EVT recommended some building energy standards that Hartford could tie its building code too in case EVT’s net-zero program disappeared in the future. EVT suggested working with realtors and all people applying for new permits. Alan recommended talking to Tim Biebel at Prudent Living and Steve Davis.
- Geoff will share information on the Olcott Falls efficiency campaign with Two Rivers Ottauquechee Regional Commission for a potential project.

**Block Party Wednesday, June 12:** Volunteers are needed for the event. Geoff is available for first shift and Ryan and Paige are available for end shift. Niki and Lynn are not available. Erik, Martha, and Fred will be asked. HEC cannot partner with Resilient Hartford since they are partnering with Apple Corps. Items to display: Alan’s car, Go! Vermont information, weather stripping, and the light board. HEC could ask for light bulb donations from Foggs and Blodgett. Niki will ask.

**Valley Quest:** HEC discussed setting up an Energy Sites tour. Paige is investigating with Vital Communities. Potential sites are: the Wilder Dam and Kilowatt Park, Vermod, the Wilder Well solar site, and South Scape houses. Paige will continue to pursue.

**Legislation:** There is a bill banning new fossil fuel infrastructure in Vermont. Many people attended the public hearing, however, the committee chair recently expressed a negative response.

**CROH liaison report:** Resilient Hartford is organizing a potato fest as a competition between villages.

The meeting adjourned at 8:03.

Respectfully submitted,

Lyn Bohi, Clerk