

Draft Hartford Energy Commission minutes

September 26, 2019

Present: Erik Krauss, Paige Greenfield, Fred Randall, Lynn Bohi; Alan Johnson, Selectboard Liaison; Geoff Martin, Staff, Ana Mejia, Vial Communities

Erik called the meeting to order at 6:35.

Changes to the agenda: Add budget, and climate emergency delegate.

Ana Mejia is the new climate project coordinator at Vital Communities (VC). She is the administrative support to the Upper Valley adaption work group. She is also the support person for energy committees. VC is launching a Climate Change Leadership Academy with twenty five members. They will learn about climate change and develop projects to address problems,

Mobil home park energy program: VC wanted to work with a neglected population about weatherization. They got a grant. They have talked d to people who have worked with mobile homes. For this project they are working with Efficiency Vermont (EV) and COVER and will focus on roofs and skirting. The project may start in December with follow up in the spring. VC will choose the park.

Climate Emergency Declaration: At the joint Selectboard and School Board meeting, they decided to work on a joint resolution. The Selectboard approved the formation of an ad hoc committee. Membership will be two from both the Selectboard and School Board, one from Planning and Development, the Energy Coordinator, one from HEC and one from Resilient Hartford. Discussion followed about the HC delegate. Lynn moved and Paige seconded that Erik be the delegate for now, with the understanding that Erik will talk to Martha, Niki and Ryan. The motion passed.

Minutes: Fred moved and Paige seconded that the August minutes pass as presented. The motion passed.

Monthly article: Erik had written and shared an article about the well adapted home. Suggestions included: emphasize climate and green house gas, money savings, and since Button Up centers on this, put it out soon. The consensus was the building integrity work group will break the excellent article into smaller sections. Lynn has started an article on financing home projects that should fit In with this topic. The October article could be about Button Up with the date for HEC activities and a link to Efficiency Vermont incentives. It would be good to have a climate emergency article near March election.

Budget: HEC will ask for the same amount as last year. Specifically:

- Travel \$965 (same)
- Advertising \$ 320 (half of last year)
- Contracts \$4500 with \$500 to Vital Communities (up \$1000 for facilitators and add speakers)
- Postage \$150 (down from \$875)
- Materials \$912 (same)

Transportation Work Group: DHMC has a new transportation director who needs time before he feels he can help HEC with our projects, they have ideas for meeting employees. They are asking HEC to think about places and businesses along route 4 that could be mini park and rides. King Arthur Flour is looking at GO! Vermont.

Building Integrity: Major work has been on Net Zero with two workshops for developers, contractors, architects, and other similar occupations set for November 19 and 20.

Regional energy Conference: Geoff went. Two Rivers Regional Planning Commission has some money and Paige will ask them to pay for food at our regional VLITE brain storming session.

Municipal projects:

- There are buildings that need full audits: WABA and Public Works. Geoff is looking into companies that want to work with us on performance contracting. The company would conduct an audit, complete the work, guarantee an amount of savings, and get paid from the savings. It was suggested we could pay for audits with the local option tax, and then town can keep all the savings. Geoff will continue to look into this.
- The transfer station is in financial trouble and may have to close.

Button Up: We will host a workshop on November 1st at first Friday at Open Door. Efficiency Vermont will do the presentation.

Trunk or Treat: This will be on Saturday, October 26 from 4:00 to 6:00 pm at Lyman Point Park. If there are enough HEC volunteers, we will again be vampires and pass out the quarter sheet HEC information and a Button Up promotion sheet, and maybe energy bars. Possible volunteers: Fred, Lynn, Niki, Ryan, Alan, Geoff.

REV conference: Alan is going.

VLITE: Brain storming conference on Friday, November 8 from noon to 2:00 at Town Hall. Fifteen leaders from various towns are invited. They will look for next steps for climate emergency declaration and data.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45.

Respectfully submitted:

Lynn Bohi, Clerk