

BRANDON ENERGY COMMITTEE
4:30 PM Monday, July 1, 2024 Meeting
At Town Hall Basement Meeting Room

Agendas are posted on the community bulletin boards located at the Town Office at 49 Center Street and the Junction Store & Deli at 2265 Forest Dale Road. The Energy Committee reserves the right to add additional items, if necessary, at the beginning of the meeting.

Attendees: David Martin, Jack Schneider, Erin Ballentine, Robert Black
Guests: Clare Babyak-Schick, Mike Schick

4:30 PM Chair DM called meeting to order.

Adopt agenda (amended as approved) and minutes Unanimous approval.

Invitation for public comments None here, but see below for other comments.

Reflection: *What is your Vision for the BEC?*

Chair suggestion to increase focus on residents and encouraging more interaction with BEC. Engage local folks to share their ideas and concerns. Capture and use this input to guide BEC goals and actions. Emphasize smaller scale, actionable projects. Showcase successes ala "Tool Ship".

Public Comment: for every \$ invested in energy improvements adds 20X \$ value to home. Make invitations to community individuals to come to BEC meetings and express their concerns.

Work more with the Town on Town issues (i.e., Town Hall windows, etc.)

Check on previous Energy improvements to Town Facilities (See Tim G. reports)

RRPC opportunity for Training - Spectrum of Community Engagement to Ownership...defer balance of discussion to future meeting.

5:00 PM Continue into Regular Meeting

Updates on Upcoming Events and Ongoing Projects:

Survey distribution and follow up – continue discussion at next meeting.

Toolship project status – David Final assembly and testing this week.

Article for Reporter on Toolship/Tool Lending Program week of the parade- David working with The Reporter.

Parade Day Plans – Graphics ready...final ToolShip assembly to be done this week...activate solar blower with streamers...

Set Up - transport for tools to start point - ?

Toolship - David will tow this with his e-bike

Walkers with Toolship - SIX to carry/push tools

Table at Park - Jack - surveys and posters...RB to print large copies of posters; bring easels.

Posters – Erin presented two versions (by Jeremy) for discussion. *Shape Our Future Together* OK. Poster of Energy Sectors and Targets to be reworked by EB and RB.

Novus solar project – Jack...waiting on PUC 45-day notice to start get to Certificate of Public Good. Some concerns from Public about Novus and potential future financial liability to Town. JS to explore experiences of Novus with other VT towns.

Review of annual budget and MERP grant – David...Tools to be covered by MERP Grant funds to conserve other funds to make a second ToolShip....potential in-kind support @ Brandon Lbr.

How can we better collaborate with BROOC, Heat Squad, Efficiency Vermont? BEC as link between Brandon residents and these organizations. Possible Fall presentation with these 3 groups.

Button Up event this fall for non profits and grants to support this. Consider opening up this program to more than non-profits...broader outreach...BEC organize this at August meeting. Coordinate with Efficiency Vermont.

Bringing Solar for All project funds to Brandon – working with Solarfest

Collaboration with OVUS – Erin developing this connection with teachers.

Collaboration with SolarFest – Robert...good progress on overview planning with Mike Bailey. Initial approval by State Wetlands authorities for Community Solar Array to proceed. Upcoming Site Framwork Planning to be indexed into BEC activities and goals.

Town Energy Report and distribution. Defer to future meetings discussion.

5:55 Review agreements made.

5:58 PM Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting, Monday, AUGUST 5, 4:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert Black/BEC Secretary