

## Brandon Energy Committee

4:30 PM Monday, August 5th, 2024 Meeting

At Town Hall Basement Meeting Room

In attendance: David Martin, Jack Schneider, Erin Ballantine, Eve Beglarian, Jeff Haylon

### BEC MEETING AGENDA

**4:30** Adopt agenda (amended as approved) and minutes (Jack moved, Jeff seconds, unanimous approval)

Invitation for public comments

**4:35** Reflection: What excites you about being on the energy committee?

**4:40** Updates on Upcoming Events and Ongoing Projects:

Parade Day follow up / feedback

-David: toolship got good attention/press, good attendance

-SolarFest going to give some storage space for float, odds + ends

Survey results so far -Erin: few responses so far. Potential incentives to encourage responses?

Toolship project status - David: slight modifications ongoing to existing model, SolarFest to install solar power. Hopeful first "home" for it would be at the library. All batteries have tracking system, checkout system set up to be fully automatic

Novus solar project - Jack: waiting on Public Utility Commission response on positioning array relative to existing Green Lantern one

-Town Manager informed that the proposed private solar array on Old Brandon Road is not currently proceeding (solar developer appears to have lost interest). Land is still potentially usable for an array developed by someone else.

Review of MERP town building energy audits status- David

Button Up this fall for all residents/businesses/non-profits. - David: David in contact with Efficiency VT, BROCC, HeatSquad

-Are there grants to support this?

-How can we better collaborate with BROCC, Heat Squad, Efficiency Vermont?

-VECAN block grant available, applications due Friday 8/9

-Jeff moves to recommend the town apply for the grant for \$50K to establish an Energy Revolving Loan Fund, Erin seconds. Unanimous approval.

Bringing Solar for All project funds to Brandon - Jack: SolarFest trying to find a way to donate additional energy to low-income families; legalities still being determined.

Fall Repair Fair - David: April Repair Fair was a success, would be a good way to continue good PR, planning for October 19-20. Location TBD, possibly Town Hall, possibly in front of the old high school, possibly Green Park, possibly library (Jeff to follow up with library staff on feasibility)

Bike repair station - ReBHS has plan to assemble repair station using upcycled materials from old high school--tie in with art bike project

Parking Day event? Sept 20-22 - David: international day to use parking spots to do "micro" pop-up events--tie-in with Chamber, parking committee

-Questions on potential pushback/usage of parking spaces when some in town are already concerned about the lack thereof

-Should get approval from relevant businesses, then take it to the SB

Collaboration with OVUHS - Erin

Collaboration with SolarFest - Erin: SolarFest planning on a volunteer weekend at the end of the month (work days combined with community meals/entertainment). Potential work includes repairing barns, site clearing, marking/clearing walking paths

Town Energy Report and distribution- Jack: RRPC planning a county-wide format

**5:45** Review agreements made.

Next meeting SEPTEMBER 2nd and good byes!

5:50: Jeff moves to adjourn, Erin seconds. Unanimous approval