

BRANDON ENERGY COMMITTEE
4:30 PM Monday, Oct. , 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, Jim Emerson, Jeff Haylon, Eve Baglarian, Robert Black

Guest: Jeff Dardozzi, Tim Guiles

BEC MEETING AGENDA

4:35 David Martin called meeting to order. Adopt agenda (amended as approved) and minutes unanimous approvals for both.

Invitation for public comments. None

4:40 Reflection: How are you doing? How are we doing? Some overwhelm of many BEC items to attend to, but under control. Stolen personal car may allow transition to new EV. "Joyous" summer! Quality of mutual commitments of individuals. Focus on Grants to improve capacity. 4 new PV solar systems. Displace gas cars on the road...with more EV's. Enroll new members... broaden community awareness. Build energy efficient housing. Toolship is a hit!! Basement winterization project underway...to be completed this week yet! Two basic tasks 1) Iternative, repeatable; 2) Certain tasks when done well may not need to be redone. Rental apartment over a garage...Eff VT does not have equitable cost rebate for Owner vs. Tenant may require policy revisions. List possible "takeaways" for action (i.e, "Energy Navigator", etc.)...consider BEC to Lobby State of Vermont.

4:55 Updates on Upcoming Events and Ongoing Projects:

Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants (EECBG) - 18 month energy consultant position (application submitted) – JS spoke w/Town Mgmt to consider hiring a consultant, rather than hiring a new employee of the Town. DM visited Goshen meeting to review Energy Navigator process they use (Navigators are based out of Middlebury, Addison County) They are working on a EN training program for new Navigators...work through Rewiring America program first. Funded by State Grant program with one hired person (Shannon) and a group of volunteers. JE suggest BEC apply for \$4k Grant (if not overlapping with EECBG). See other notes below.

MERP Implementation Grants \$500k - work on Town buildings (3 of 4 that were audited - application submitted) Notice of Grants will be issued Oct 21 +/-.

Button Up this fall for all residents/businesses/non-profits. - David M.
October 26 10:00 - 11:30

Climate Economy Action Center of Addison County - Navigator Project - David M.

<https://ceacac.org/2023/10/01/the-navigator-project/> Invite Energy Navigator (Shannon) to present at next meeting.

VCRD's Climate Catalysts Innovation Fund - \$500 to \$4k - applications due 10/28
Ideas??? Toolship II (Need approx.. \$4K funding) Button Up 2025,
JE motion w/second to apply for the \$4k CEAC Navigator grant...unanimous approval.

Brandon Green Fleet data for FY2024 - How to meet 2030/2050 Carbon Footprint goals - Tim G. Report: 4 Fuels (Gas, Diesel, Htg Oil, Propane) usage data being studied. (i.e., Police vehicle usage rising over last 3+ years, due to increased staffing). BEC to generate awareness and support. #2 Htg Oil use reduced in Town facilities due to more heat pump installations. Town vehicle usage will stay as is for some time, due to no reasonable alternative right now. Request to BEC to help **build awareness** in Town to transition options (i.e., EV for police vehicles, large Town vehicles (help drive down Brandon "carbon footprint"). State of VT goal to reduce carbon footprint by 26% by end of FY 2025 (9 mos.). New Highway Garage in 2025 could help shift Brandon toward its goal. DeDevelop a stronger Future Vision for Carbon Footprint...one example: Total EV green Police Vehicle fleet for Brandon within 5 years (2025, 2 EV's, 2026, 2 EV's, 2027 1 EV).

Novus solar project - Jack S. / Jim E. in Process...

Energy Library - moving to BFPL - Kathy C. sorted books to keep and will deliver to Brandon Free Public Library. Books will be posted with orange edging. Consider placing extra Energy Library books in the two small free book kiosks (Kennedy Park, 17 Franklin St).

Toolship project status – Jeff D. to apply for grant to offer plans and process for other communities to build a Toolship. Jeff D to explore examples of existing companies that Lease EV's ala same process as "checking out" tools from the Toolship.

Bringing Solar for All project funds to Brandon (SolarFest) - Erin B./Jack S. See Stephanie Jerome for other projects that are using funds for this initiative.

Fall Repair Fair at town hall Meeting Room - October 20 12:00 - 4:00 - David M./Jeff D. working on the event.

Collaboration with OVUHS – carry forward to next meeting.

Collaboration with SolarFest – carry forward to next meeting.

5:55 Meeting adjourned

Next meeting October 7th and good byes!

This meeting is available to attend via ZOOM: Meeting ID 87042220099

It will also be recorded

Respectfully submitted,
Robert Black/BEC Secretary