



Town of Huntington



Huntington Energy Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 19, 2017 @ 7:00 pm

→ Town Office (Downstairs) - Huntington Center ←

Ross Ogilvie - Chair
Natalia Czar
Nayo Ogilvie
Duncan Keir
Christa Shute
Yves Gonnet

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FOR RECORD
DATE November 20, 2017

Committee voted on minutes for June 27, 2017, May 18, 2017 and June 15, 2017.

Aegis discussion:

Ross attended the Selectboard meeting to hear the presentation by Aegis, who sells and installs hardware. They were trying to sell shares of a solar array to towns. The town buildings here are on Green Mountain Power, which does its own solar arrays. However, Ross discussed with Nils Behn, CEO of Aegis Renewable Energy, about the town and getting solar on some of the buildings, especially the town shed. The roof is corrugated and faces the right way - it just needs to be ascertained that the roof could support the weight. It could also be the beginning of something for the school. There is not enough space to put a solar array there, but they could purchase power from somewhere else. The new State rules are that you need to be adjacent to the solar array you draw power from. The school is a different entity - if it did not work for the school, it might work for the town buildings.

Companies like Green Lantern and Suncommon help plan and connect you with banks, investors and financing. We need to pair up with someone who knows the intricacies of municipal rules and laws. Aegis is interested in doing solar roofs on municipal buildings. Suncommon has not been interested in the past but is beginning to be more involved with solar roofs. Do we want to invite people from different companies to present their plan for municipal solar arrays? We are thinking of inviting Aegis to give the HEC a presentation in a few months.

BPMS School Heat Pump open house

The Times Inc article gave the Energy Committee a lot of credit for the HEC system. There has not been much chance to test the heat, but the air conditioning worked well. This is the year to give feedback, because the engineers will be fine-tuning the system. The open house will be on the 24th at 6:30.

Continued Carbon Forum Series Planning

We are going to count the heat pump open house as part of our Carbon Forum. We hope to present a forum on heat pumps, building on momentum from the interest in the school heat pump. A presenter that supplies more than one brand would be good, because a contractor is going to be biased. It is suggested that Ross contact FW Webb in Essex. We want people to be able to learn about things like fair pricing, knowing that someone neutral has looked into what the various companies charge.

Act 174:

Emily put together two reports from the Chittenden County RPC - one for the town, one for the committee. It is optimal for the town plan to happen on time so that it does not expire. We want this done in time for the next town plan, which will be in a year and a half. Keep the energy plan separate from the town plan.

The enhanced plan really spells out what we originally got from CCRPC. It is suggested that we review another town plan from a town with similar attributes to ours and compare it to ours to see how we might fill in some of the sections which CCRPC identified as needing work in ours. Christa and Yves will do this review and report back with suggestions next meeting. The CCRPC tables are as accurate as anything we have seen. We do not have this level of detail in our current plan.

The CCRPC maps probably should be separate documents to prevent the electronic document from being unwieldy. The town maps are not attached, either - they are just referenced. The maps use generalized boundaries. We should identify regions of use and make it public to get feedback from people in the town.