

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE SUSTAINABLE ENERGY COMMISSION

The Sustainable Energy Commission held a regular meeting Thursday, June 21, 2018 in shared meeting room 3 of the Municipal Center located at 3 Primrose Street, Newtown, CT 6470.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kathy Quinn at 7:03pm.

Present: Chairman Kathy Quinn, Allen Adriani, Jeff Jorgenson, Mark Sievel, Vanessa Villamil (7:15pm)

Also Present: Chuck Litty

Absent: George Brown, Graham Clifford, Tom Snyad, Dave Stout

Communications: Ms. Quinn talked about renewable energy in CT; there will be fuel cells and wind power. CT will partake in a Rhode Island 200 megawatt revolution wind project. CT will do a PPA on this. There is a 14.8 megawatt fuel cell project in Derby, 7.4 in Hartford. The Clean Energy Climate bill was signed with a goal of 40% of state's electricity to come from renewables by 2030.

Acceptance of Minutes: Mr. Adriani moved to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of 5/24/18 and the special meeting relative to Sustainable CT that was held on 5/31/18. Ms. Villamil seconded. All in favor.

Business: Discussion and possible action

- a. **New Project – Sandy Hook School Solar/firehouses:** no update.
- b. **Nunnawauk Meadows – solar:** no update.
- c. **ZREC for Community Center:** waiting on information on the roof; no update.
- d. **Energy Savings program:**
 - Riverside Road Senior Center** - the SBEA program has started.
 - Library** – the library is on board with a vendor evaluating what needs to be done there.
 - Edmond Town Hall** – Ms. Quinn will follow up with the Board of Managers
 - New Construction projects – Community Center** – no update.
 - Police Department** – no update.
 - General plan for schools – update:** waiting to hear from Mr. Faiella.The town will be putting a new roof on Stratford Hall. We should look into the feasibility of putting solar on the roof.
- e. **Dashboard for website (API keys):** no update.
- f. **Sustainable CT** – the general meeting was held on 5/31/18; there was a good cross section of people. The Sustainable CT group reviewed completed items and discussed who will be responsible for other items. There are three interns through WestCOG to help towns that are members of Sustainable CT. Mr. Litty asked who the decision makers are. Ms. Quinn said there are core people, but she is currently the point person. They are looking at what's been done to meet the August 24 deadline. The next Sustainable CT meeting is July 24. Ms. Quinn will look at the original charge of the Sustainable Energy Commission and review the resolution that created Sustainable CT.
- g. **Develop plan to reduce electric demand charge on town buildings:** no update.
- h. **Solomon Solar project/ Windham:** no update.
- i. **Batchelder site potential for solar/community solar project:** no update.
- j. **Fuel Cell project and/or CHP (combined heat and power) discussion:** no update.

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Town Clerk of Newtown 8:28 AM
Debbie Annalisa Halstead

Additional Items for discussion:

1. **Municipal Energy Plan:** this needs to be addressed. It is a written document stating the goals of the town. This is one of the Sustainable CT action items.
2. **Energy Star Portfolio Manager:** no update.
3. **Website – Update Landfill photo, link to Sustainable CT:** Mr. Jorgenson will look into getting a photo of the landfill project via drone.
4. **Organic Recycling:** Ms. Villamil took part in a waste audit at Hawley School. Eight out of the nine bags audited contained compostable items, recyclable items and perfectly good food thrown away. Of the nine bags there was one bag of solid waste. There will be a meeting with Jennifer Heaton-Jones, Mr. Faiella, Mr. Hurley and the First Selectman to discuss getting the schools involved in composting and recycling. The cafeteria workers, in the kitchen, are recycling. Ms. Quinn and Ms. Villamil will visit a school in Redding that has a composting program.
5. **Fracking Waste:** Ms. Quinn and Ms. Villamil attended a recent ordinance committee meeting. The fracking waste ban is coming along; they are reviewing it with attorneys.
6. **Plastic Bag Reduction resolution:** There are issues being discussed around this item. There is push back from the stores. The proposal is being rewritten to include a ban on plastic and a ten cent charge on paper; however, the ten cents will stay with the store. Mr. Jorgenson wants to know the environmental and financial impact. Ms. Villamil says it's the most popular law in Europe; it's cleaned up the waterways and trees.

Adjournment: Having no further business the regular meeting of the Sustainable Energy Commission at 8:07p.m.

The next meeting will be held July 19, 2018

Susan Marcinek, clerk