

*THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE SUSTAINABLE ENERGY
COMMISSION*

Sustainable Energy Commission held a regular meeting Thursday, March 21, 2019 in shared meeting room 3 of the Municipal Center located at 3 Primrose Street, Newtown, CT 06470. Chairman Kathy Quinn called the meeting to order at 7:00pm

Present: Kathy Quinn, Allen Adriani, Vanessa Villamil, David Stout, Mark Sievel, Barbara Donahue

Absent: George Brown, Tom Snayd

Also Present: Fred Hurley and Zach Marchetti

Communications – Earth Day is going to be April 27, 2019. K. Quinn received an e-mail from a man on Main Street looking for a recommendation for an energy audit. She responded that they have not dealt with residential audits and should go back to Eversource. K. Quinn reported that the current state fracturing ban on the table is the same language as Newtown's. There are people within CCM are going to try to put wording in that would be financially beneficial to them. We need to support the wording as is and not have it watered down.

Public Comments - None

Minutes – A. Adriani moved to approve the minutes of the 2/21/19 meeting. B. Donahue seconded, motion unanimously approved.

BUSINESS

Committee membership and accession plan – Zach Marchetti still needs to work on his resume but plans to be part of the commission.

ZREC for Community Center, Stratford Hall and/or new Police Station – No Update.

VNM solar project – Voluntown 2MW (AC) –The next round coming through will double the size of the pot for VNM going forward. Newtown has already submitted the appropriate filing which will put the rest of the town buildings in the VNM que. If all this goes forward we could have 5 MW total because the 3MW limit it is per project not per town. They are trying to write the PPA so that credit on electricity purchase stops at the cap. You could theatrically hit your cap well before the 1.8 million KWH that could be generated per MW of generation capacity.

Batchelder site potential for solar/community solar project – Rob Sibley is overseeing the clean up. Once the clean up is done there will be a project to put through. There is a push to revitalize brownfields by turning them into a greenfield.

Energy Savings program:

Library & Edmond Town Hall – Both are moving forward.

New Construction Projects

Community Center – No Update t

Police Department – No Update

General plan for schools update – B. Donahue found a write up as a very good school. When they went through LEED gold they went for 17 out of 33 credit. It is pending performance data. She will call the LEED AP and find out if they did the commissioning and explain that there are problems with the buildings. April 16 at 10am is a walk through Head Of Meadow school with Ben Toby of Prism Energy.

Sustainable CT – Program recommendation sent to First Selectman – K. Quinn is meeting with the First Selectman on Monday.

Develop plan to reduce electric demand charge on town buildings- No update

Develop/update: Municipal Energy Plan, Web Site, Facebook page and Power Point Presentation – K. Quinn wants to do a spreadsheet as to what the commission wants and where they need to go. The energy plan would be for the entire town, where we have been and where we are going.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE ADDRESSED

Energy Star Portfolio Manager – No Update

Organic Recycling – No Update

General Recycling – No Update

Plastic Bag Reduction resolution sent to Ordinance committee – V. Villamil reported that she went to Hartford regarding the plastic bag ban. Everyone that spoke said they would support the ban with a \$0.10 charge on paper bags.

Next meeting is April 18, 2019.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:23pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Arlene Miles, Clerk