

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY COMMISSION
Regular Meeting
Public Works Department, 4 Turkey Hill Road, Newtown
Thursday, August 18, 2022
Called to order at 7:03PM

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

Present: Kathy Quinn, Carol Walsh, Mike Oristaglio, Derek Pisani, David Stout, George Brown(7:21)

Absent: Dana Myjak, Robert Bohn, Allen Adriani,

Also Present: Director of Public Works Fred Hurley

Communications – None

Public Comments - None

Acceptance of Minutes – M. Oristaglio moved to approve the minutes of the June 16, 2022 meeting. D. Pisani seconded, all in favor.

BUSINESS

10K Grant decision – No update

Heat pump possibility at Nunnawauk Meadows – K. Quinn explained that there were two webinar's, one for heat pumps and another for grants which she sat in on as well as the Director and Facility Manager of Nunnawauk. They have 134 units with electric heat and this could be an ideal solution. F. Hurley, K. Quinn and K. Chiappetta from Economic and Community Development met with them to talk about this option. The reason the town was there was for informational and assistance.

Sub-Committees:

EV Charging Stations – D. Pisani has reached out to Charge Point. D. Stout will also provide D. Pisani with contacts for a few more EV companies that may be a good fit for Newtown.

Energy Storage – No update

Portfolio Manager – K. Quinn reached out to Dr. Amy Thompson with UConn who is doing work with Eversource and can help them with portfolio manager. K. Quinn has set up a virtual meeting set up with her next Thursday and M. Oristaglio will join her.

Outreach to promote energy improvement measures to the Commercial Sector and review of Design Guidelines for Public Building and Site Committee – No update

VNM solar project – New project waiting state approval– The first round of the new program did not go well because the way the vendors bid on the projects; how the reimbursements occur and the rising cost of equipment. Many of the projects aren't going to go forward. The next bid period in February may have a better result.

Solar Canopy at Police Department – No update

Other Solar Opportunities – The Batchelder site will be a good community solar site and available to places like Nunnawauk Meadows.

School Updates: No update

Town Building Strategic Plan Committee update – No update

Municipal Energy Plan – No update

Social Media – No update

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE ADDRESSED

Changes to recycling/composting efforts - F. Hurley reported that Ridgefield started an onsite food scrap recycling program which we are hoping to replicate. They are going to put in for another grant to see if we can get some of the costs covered. F. Hurley also reviewed some ideas of changing the layout of the Transfer Station to make it more efficient and user friendly.

Next meeting is September 15, 2022

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:56pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Arlene Miles, Clerk