

# Bennington Energy Committee Minutes

Wednesday, May 3rd, 2023 7-8:30 PM

Live – In Person – No Zoom

Bennington Fire Dept Multi-Purpose Rm, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, 130 River St,

**In attendance:** William Karis (Chair), Gary Corey (Member), Al Bashevkin (Member), Chris Bates (Member), Marshall Hudson Knapp (guest), Mary Rogers (member), Bruce Lierman, Bruce Lee-Clark (guest)

1. Review minutes from April 5<sup>th</sup> meeting
  - a. Minutes accepted as written.
2. ReSOURCE – Weatherization Training – Follow Up
  - a. Training was fully subscribed and is going on now. Lots of good feeling about offering this class. Appears to be a waiting list for folks to participate in this training.
3. Earth Day Energy/Climate Panel - Follow Up
  - a. Well received by those in attendance. Bruce Lierman accepted N award as a climate advocate
4. June 3 VECAN conference (Vermont Energy and Climate Action Conference) about climate resiliency...Looks like an interesting conference. Click [here](#) for more information
5. Increasing Weatherization Tabling - Follow Up
  - a. Tabling at Healthy Kids Day got at least 8 sign-ups for Window Dressers
  - b. More tabling hoped for during the season closer to the heating season.
  - c. Suggested better labeling might be able to help draw people to the tables. Perhaps a table, tablecloth, and a sign will help. Perhaps would be wise to have Efficiency Vermont Free Box available.
6. Revisit Municipal Energy Resilience Program (MERP) \$4K Mini-Grants
  - a. This grant can support materials needed for our outreach. It can support tables, refreshments, all that is needed for tabling
  - b. Mary has offered to write the grant on behalf of the Town of Bennington Energy Committee. She will check with Shannon Barsotti to see if the Town has already submitted an application. This will be further discussed at the next meeting of the Energy Committee.
  - c. Wondering if Efficiency Vermont might have engaging materials for tabling events to teach about energy related activities.
7. Public comment
  - a. Discussion about window dressers and what is needed for volunteers. There is a need for a coordinator and it was suggested that a presentation at the Select Board can help get broader audience to the appeal.
  - b. There was interest at the town meetings for referrals to BROCC for weatherization. Want to

- ensure that these referrals made it to the right place.
- c. It was commented how challenging the application process is for weatherization through BROOC.
8. Confirm agenda for first Wednesday of month, June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023 meeting