

Hartford Energy Commission minutes
March 24, 2022

Present in person: Molly Smith, Lynn Bohi; Dana Clawson, staff

Present virtually: Ashton Todd, Jesse Pollard (at 5:20); Cici Wendling, Meg McLaurey, guests

Molly called the meeting to order at 5:02. There was no quorum, thus minutes were not approved.

Announcements: Meg and Cici both were on the high honor roll. They were congratulated.

Bylaws: Molly has written a possible change regarding membership. If changed, they would read "HEC consists of five to seven members, the majority of which must be residents of the Town." HEC wondered if the student guests would be interested in being full voting members. They are. HCORI has asked for the same thing. Lynn will look at former Selectboard meetings for context.

Subcommittee reports:

Building Integrity and Energy Efficiency:

Window Dressers: Meg and Cici created posters and ¼ page cards. Molly printed about 100, of which 40 to 50 will go to Hartland. Molly will leave some at Town Hall and will mail some to those HEC affiliated who request them. Wilder Library has been officially confirmed. Dana and Molly worked on a New England Grass Roots grant application for \$4000.00, the majority of which will subsidize low income applicants. LISTEN and The Haven have been asked to refer applicants.

Transportation:

Drive Electric event is April 23 from 10:00am to 1:00pm at Marion Cross School and Saint Barnabas Church parking lots. Many people have signed up to bring EVs. There will also be Ebikes. Prior to the event, there is a parade thru town. There will be a charging demo at Dan and Whit's. Molly will email the promotional materials.

EV guide is on version five. The cost to print 400 copies is \$1300 to print the 40 page document. Can HEC pay for printing? The budget was discussed. There is \$4,500 in contracted services. Ashton moved and Jesse seconded that HEC pay \$1300 from contracted services. The motion passed.

CAST:

They are working with several Town Committees to integrate the plan into their decisions and budgets. The town departments have been asked to put relevant CAP features in any job descriptions. HEC needs to decide on ten priority items in the chapters for Buildings and Energy and Land Use. Members are asked to read those two chapters and pick personal priorities which will be announced at the April meeting and ten mutual priorities will be decided upon.

Sustainability and Energy Coordinator report:

Public Works asked if Dana can find them electric lawn mowers for the water plants, since gasoline cannot be stored near there.

The Planning Commission would like HEC guidance on preferred sites for solar projects. Jesse will take the lead on this. Dana was asked to discuss preferred sites with the Selectboard in preparation for their meeting with Norwich Solar in a few weeks.

Norwich Solar on Christian Street: They are removing eleven acres of trees. The trees will go to a mill. The chips are in need of a different destination from the usual one Norwich Solar uses. Several possibilities were discussed. Lynn will ask the former manager of Northern Nursery. Hartford High uses chips for heating, but has requirements that these will not meet.

Officers: HEC needs a Vice Chair from now until November elections. Ashton agreed to the task. Molly moved and Lynn seconded that Ashton be elected Vice Chair until November. The motion passed.

HEC Herald: April contains both Earth Day and Arbor Day. Jesse suggested and will write about a connection between geopolitical issues and energy. Window Dressers and Drive Electric will have articles. Molly will create a piece about how decreasing energy use helps the environment. All members will take a picture of ourselves in our favorite natural spot and describe why it is a loved spot. Articles are due April 15.

The meeting adjourned at 5:55pm.

Lynn Bohi, clerk

Homework: CAP top 10 priorities, a picture celebrating nature, tell Molly if you want WD cards or posters