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**Town of Middlebury  
Energy Committee Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, June 21, 2017**

Present: Ross Conrad, Chris Robbins, Howard WidELITZ, Steve Meier, Heather Seeley (arrived 8:40).  
Absent: Hannah Hurlburt

Ross convened the meeting at 8:15 am.

Minutes: Approval of the minutes was postponed till the next meeting.

By-laws: Steve will revise the by-laws as previously discussed, based on the 2015 revision, and will send them out to members.

Revolving Fund: The committee discussed asking the select board to make the energy efficiency appropriation a revolving fund, so that the savings from each year could go into next year's fund, adding to the \$10,000 base. Chris thought letting the savings stay with the departments might make them more interested in doing efficiency improvements. Heather was not sure how the select board would react. We decided to wait till a project or projects had been completed to approach the subject.

Electric Car Recharge Stations: A citizen had suggested putting a Tesla recharging station next to the McDonalds where the car wash used to be. Steve read an email from town planner Jen Murray saying that Tesla recharge stations were only for Tesla cars and the company decides where to put them. We discussed places for more regular charging stations, noting that they exist in the Frog Hollow parking lot, at the Marble Works and at the regional planning office but not in the vicinity of the Centre Plaza. Other locations in that area were suggested, but the committee did not like the idea of putting it next to the McDonalds. Steve will contact DriveElectric and ask for an inventory of stations in Middlebury and find out how new ones are located.

Town Energy Efficiency Projects: Heather said the department heads meeting will be next Thursday 6/29 at 9:15 am. She, Howard, Ross and Steve will try to attend to promote the energy efficiency project. Chris will make minor revisions to the cover memo and send it to Heather with the RFP form. Heather will get them to Kathleen so they can be in the packet for the dept. heads meeting. We will ask them to return the proposals by July 17 so we can review them at our July 19 meeting.

Howard reported that we did not received the NEGEF grant that we had hoped to use for energy audits.

Web Site: Chris English and Steve updated the web site, which is now a page in the Town web site. The old web site is still out there and accessible through search engines but has not been updated in a long time. Howard will try to set it up so it redirects viewers to the new site. One complication is that our group email is through the hosting service that the old web site was on. Howard is going to talk to Laura Asermily about setting up a group email through the town web site, since she does this for the UU church. Also we need to find out how to keep track of how many visits the page receives.

Members liked the new web site. One suggestion was to change the menu item "nuts and bolts" to "resource links." Heather talked about keeping it current at least quarterly with updates and links to upcoming events. We could ask to be featured on the town's home page when the energy efficiency project is announced, and could put links on Front Porch Forum and Kathleen's weekly email. Heather

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asked Steve to keep track of his hours to see how much time it takes to maintain the web presence. Steve asked everyone to look at the site and give him comments.

Meeting times: Ross will check with Hannah about meeting at 8:45 in the summer to accommodate Heather's children's summer camp drop-off time. He will let us know before the next meeting.

Member concerns:

Steve heard on the radio that Burlington and other cities are forming a climate consortium and wondered if we were interested. More information is needed.

Chris read the New Haven town plan and said they have a very extensive energy section to comply with state law giving them substantial deference before the Public Service board. They propose to severely limit commercial solar arrays. Chris also wondered about the energy dashboard, which is getting little publicity. Steve thought that would change when we participate in the climate model communities program next fall.

Ross listed items for next month's agenda: review dept. proposals for energy efficiency, discuss outreach, review web site.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45. Next meeting will be July 19 at 8:15 or 8:45 am.

Respectfully submitted,  
Chris Robbins