

Monkton Energy Committee Notes
Monkton Town Hall
September 21, 2016
Final Minutes

Members Present: Chris Skees, Jay Frater, Lee Kauppila and Pete Dufault.

Call to Order: 7:08 PM by Jay Frater.

Announcements: None.

Minutes review: The August minutes were reviewed and approved as presented, they will be posted to the town website.

Others present: Nadine Barnicle, Fran Putnam and Steve Pilcher.

Town Energy Plan

The Town Energy Plan has been updated most recent wording in it including the appendix. Regional planning commissions will become gate keepers, they will hopefully certify language in the plan. The Town E. Plan has similar goals to State E. Plans, typical goals include making buildings as efficient as possible. Other goals include the addition of renewable resources and tax relief.

Transportation Survey

Nadine arrived at 7:30 PM and the Transportation Survey was discussed. She got a grant from a NE grassroots organization that helped develop a transportation survey. GoVT, VECAN and the Weybridge Energy Committee is working on additional transportation projects. Trip diaries should be kept to discuss in groups and trends can be established. Keep a diary for at least 3 days in a row, including a weekend. Nadine and Fran can review this at the October meeting. Data could be shared on google docs and everyone could have access to a tab in the program. Bus routes and additional people can get involved for more routes and options. Also ACTR and Bike-Ped councils can be contacted.

The underlying cause is for fossil fuel reduction, which is a habit change. The VECAN program process should be shared so others learn how this program works, so effective programs can be shared in other communities.

Park and Ride Update

Steve Pilcher said that ACTR is getting ready to finish the bus route from Hinesburg to Vergennes. There are 39 commuters from Monkton that go to Vergennes on a regular basis. Steve needs evidence of ridership to make the route effective. UVM pays a company to manage their commuters, CATMA (Chittenden Area Transportation Management Association). A study could be completed by a Middlebury College student to work with the community on this, and it could be tied to divestment.

On October 19th at 7:30 PM Fran and Nadine will be back to discuss the transportation survey.

Woodbank

There is a meeting scheduled for September 29 to discuss wood bank issues. Willowell will handle donations, and which families need wood. Willowell can use some improvements such as a sign, shed, gate and a wood splitter. Recently AmeriCore volunteers turned over and a new crew is in place. We need to investigate the possibility of putting up signs.

Steve Pilcher departed at 8:27 PM.

Chris continued with his Energy Plan. It will be good to keep an updated list as it has our energy goals on it. We will ask for feedback from Joanna Miller at VECAN.

Jay is leaving in January and will be gone for 9 months. Nate can take his place.

We are done dealing with the VEEP program at the school, they are aware of it and can pursue it if they want to.

Jay will talk with Fran regarding the solar energy credit bank.

Next Meeting October 19 at 7:00 PM

Adjournment

Chris made a motion to close the meeting and it was seconded by Nate at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Pete Dufault