

Joint Thetford Energy Committee Meeting Approved Minutes

February 2, 2023, 6:00 to 7:30 PM

Online: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86388096545>

Meeting ID: 863 8809 6545; Passcode: 064038

By Phone: 1 646 558 8656

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JTEC Present: Alice Stewart, Stephanie Daniels, Nolan Riegler, Chris Hebb, Chuck Cole, Tom Ward, Mary Bryant, Erica Ko, Weston Martin

Guests Present:

Call to order: 6:15 pm

Email list energy@thetfordvt.org who owns this list?

Action: Nolan will ask Martie about this, and make sure Chris and Weston are on it, and remove anyone no longer on the committee (eg Dennis)

6:15 Review and Approve December 1, 2022 and January 5, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Minutes Available Here:

[Microsoft Word - 2022.12.01 JOINT ENERGY COMMITTEE DRAFT MINUTES.docx \(thetfordvt.gov\)](#)

[Microsoft Word - 2023.01.05 JOINT ENERGY COMMITTEE DRAFT MINUTES.docx \(thetfordvt.gov\)](#)

Minutes approved

6:10 New Business

New funding is available on Evs, this was the reason for the EV study. Need to work with the new IREC coordinator. Discuss at end of the meeting when Mary joins.

6:15 Updates

IREC

- Hired a new person, Jeff Grout, who was previously working with ITRON and will meet with him in a few weeks.
- Climate Action Plan shared, and can be used as a framework to organize our committee actions; would be a good topic for next meeting
- Town Meeting – we have a table and need staff to staff it, March 4. Chris can help set up and staff for a few hours

Events

Battery backup webinar

- Choose date of webinar mid to late March – either 20 or 27th
- GMP has a new Energen batteries, pilot program with 100 HHs; also have Tesla program, or your own batteries
- Catamount and SunCommon are the approved installers for GMP, invite them both and then see who is willing to present
- Town Zoom account can only be used
- Using car battery as a battery backup as a storage but would need a spokesperson who uses this system

Actions:

- *Stephanie to email Martie for town Zoom account, alternating Mondays' for SB, and ask about either March 20 and 27 are possibilities*
- *Tom will send survey for townspeople on listserve*

No Mow May

- Can we look into a town campaign that would spread the word?
- Lawn signs – we'd have to ask townspeople, and town hall to post these in April for plenty of notice
- Could we ask Bryan or SB about not mowing town green for May?

TO DO:

Alice: to get a price quote from the Claremont firm for lawn signs

Nolan to check with TES about not mowing for May

Stephanie to check with TA on no mow May, get information through Conservation Commission

Mary will check in with SB about the town

Re-send the list serve post about electric mowers

Window Dressers

No response yet for volunteers to coordinate, but Bob and Stephanie so join with Hanover Norwich

TES Solar - Group Feedback for PUC Testimony

- Nolan crafting testimony for Feb 20 hearing - Committee ran through the draft testimony for Feb 20 hearing
- Energy clinic out of VT Law School will take us on as a project, to research options under IRA, will attend hearing
- Will be logistically difficult about billing, two options
 - Brattleboro Solar could do billing, but not super enthusiastic, but would consider it
 - Solar on Earth could do billing if we're not able to fill up the 50% to get the low income oftakers, they could possibly do this
- Have an interest form on low/moderate income HHs at town meeting
- Possibly open it up to all IREC towns
- Twin Pines is willing to help us find off takers but they will likely do their own solar development
- Testimony Feb 21 via GoToMeeting and all committee is invited to attend; and should have a decision from PUC by mid March

Actions:

Weston will provide simple context to Nolan for the testimony.

Nola will touch base with Solaflect on testimony

7:00 Town Hall Meeting

- Town Mtg Table
 - General info
 - Promote TES array (materials from Norwich Solar)
 - No Mow May pledge cards
 - Battery webinar
- Have an interest form on low/moderate income HHs at town meeting

Actions:

Chris Hebb willing to staff for a few hours, Stephanie for a few hours in AM, Tom possibly, Nolan will check with Bob Walker

7:30 Committee Charge and EV Funding

Important to connect the dots of what Geoff Martin did with EV feasibility study, and opportunities for funding with the town

Actions:

Mary will put the changed committed charge on SB agenda for post town meeting

Mary and Alice to help set up a meeting With new IREC coordinator and Bryan in March to discuss EV funding

Alice will forward emails of prior studies

Future Meeting Topics

Decision making criteria for efficiency investment (Marc Chabot)

Next Meeting March 2, 2023

- Climate Action Plan can be used as a framework to organize our committee actions
- Important to connect the dots of what Geoff Martin did with EV feasibility study, and opportunities for funding with the town

Adjourn 7:40 pm