

To be approved at the March 23, 2020 meeting

**Barre City Energy Committee  
Meeting Minutes from February 24, 2020**

Committee Members Present: Conor Teal, Phil Cecchini, Elaine Wang, Romni Palmer

Committee Members Absent: None

City Staff Present: Janet Shatney, Planning Director

Visitors: Brad Long, Efficiency Vermont; Deb Sachs, EcoStrategies, LLC; Lauren Maus, UVM intern to Ms. Sachs

1. **Call to order:** 5:38 pm

2. **Changes to agenda:** Co-Chair E. Wang stated she wanted to add two items the end – 1) prep for City Council quarterly update, and 2) schedule the next special meeting.

3. **Visitors and Communications:** None.

4. **Approve meeting minutes:** The agenda stating minutes to be approved was wrong, therefore Co-Chair P. Cecchini motioned and R. Palmer seconded to strike the item from the agenda, *motion carried.*

5. **Efficiency Vermont Targeted Community Activity Updates:** B. Long thanked everyone for the bulb swap information, and it was stated that it's on the city website, and someone posted to the committee's Facebook page. He doesn't think that this swap will be successful at Aubuchon's, due only to the way and where the company purchases lightbulbs, so he will focus on Nelson's Ace Hardware, and if successful, will potentially do more of them in the future.

Home energy visits are going well. Communications with BADC and The Partnership are good. B. Long went over how to sign up, and will share a live scheduling tool for folks to sign up. They will receive a \$200 coupon toward an energystar rated appliance. L. Maus will share all this on Facebook for us. B. Long is talking to 2 non-profits, and is going well. He has identified 2 more.

He met with the City, and will schedule an audit walk-through with Tim Perrin and representatives of the City, going to every single city owned building, thereby creating a 2-year plan of needs. Walk-throughs will occur in May.

The weatherization trailer is available to be in the City between October 26<sup>th</sup> and December 4<sup>th</sup>. Working on locations for it, 5 potential locations were made, and J. Shatney will send to B. Long landowner contacts and locations.

Laurie Berg, who was in attendance at the previous meeting was put in contact with someone from Efficiency Vermont to further her quest for a Pay-As-You-Save model.

6. **Report on VCRD Community Visit – Steering Committee meeting:** E. Wang outlined what happened at the meeting, and that the Community Visit hopes to turn out 300-500 residents to


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47 share ideas and strategies. Barre City's Community Visit is to be called "All in for Barre".

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49 7. **Energy Plan Community Engagement outreach event calendar:** D. Sachs shared the  
50 calendar of events, and can be found in the group shared folder. Discussion was about TDM  
51 (Transportation Demand Management) which is about car sharing, carpooling, bike racks, etc.  
52 She spoke of the Central Vermont Transit Week in May, and that the twin cities (Barre and  
53 Montpelier) senior centers are collaborating about a future day swap of their facility with each  
54 other. Bike Awareness Month is coming, and she will reach out Darren Ohl of the Vermont  
55 Bicycle Shop on N. Main Street in Barre.

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57  Homework is to review the calendar sheet and be ready to provide comments at the  
58 next regular meeting on Monday, March 23, 2020.

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60 8. **Consider finalizing community engagement survey questions:** B. Long has a pitch on  
61 weatherization that he will share with the committee at the next meeting.

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63 Responses to the surveys will be handled by C. Teal, R. Palmer and E. Wang. Should these  
64 members not be able to keep up with the responses, the work will be turned over to D. Sach's  
65 interns to assist.

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67 The draft survey was vetted with much discussion and editing. D. Sachs along with interns  
68 will finalize and get to the City Clerk for the Board of Civil Authority approval Thursday,  
69 February 27 meeting.

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71  E. Wang to send the Energy Committee logo to D. Sachs for inclusion on the survey.

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73 9. **Discuss Transit Week:** Tabled to March 23, 2020 meeting.

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75 10. **Prepare for City Council quarterly update:** Discussion and talking points were made so  
76 that C. Teal and R. Palmer say what the committee is working on.

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78 11. **Schedule next special meeting:** It was agreed to hold the special meeting on Sunday, March  
79 1, 2020 at the Capstone conference room from 8:30 am to 10:00 am. Calendar nuggets to  
80 finalize and disseminate.

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82 12. **Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn at 9:13 pm by P. Cecchini and seconded by C. Teal, *motion*  
83 *carried.*