

Marshfield and Plainfield Energy and Climate Change committee

Monthly meeting minutes, June 5th, 2017

Old Schoolhouse Common, library upstairs

Committee members In attendance:

Nick Seifert, Becky Wigg, Dan Chodokoff, Anne Miller, Wes Cate, Michael Horowicz

June Tentative Agenda:

- Select a facilitator
- Public comment
- Announcements
- Agenda modification
- Approval of previous minutes
- Business
 - Report out on the Energy Standards Planning Training for Municipalities
 - Town plan discussion:
 - What we want to include, and who is going to do what
 - Check out data available here: <http://centralvtplanning.org/programs/energy/municipal-energy-planning/>
 - Discuss a future public cookout/conversation/discussion/forum about Act 174 and what people want. Also discuss Act 174.
 - Plainfield updates
- Draft agenda for next meeting
- Set next meeting

- Select a facilitator
 - Dan volunteered
- Public comment
 - No one from the public
- Announcements
 - July 4th parade - people marching in the parade
- Agenda modification
 - No modifications
- Approval of previous minutes
 - Approved
- Business
 - Report out on the Energy Standards Planning Training for Municipalities
 - The impression from people who went to the training is that there need to be sufficient land resources for the renewable energies that should be deployed. There does not

need to be a commitment by these land owners to install projects at the sites, just enough land to do it.

- Marshfield can do regular energy planning in our town plan, and that will be fine.
- OR, Marshfield can perform more involved planning to obtain “substantial deference” in siting of renewable resources. This involves trying to predict/forecast/imagine where this goes, and how to meet the 2050 VT standards. This needs to be a reasonable method, and logically consistent.
- Templates are available, including for Marshfield, which says how the town can meet the 2050 goals: see - <http://centralvtplanning.org/programs/energy/municipal-energy-planning/>
- Town plan discussion
 - Due to the Planning Commission in early August
 - The Planning commission requested that we review Chapter 6 and update this.
 - We reviewed Chapter 6 of the town plan ([http://www.town.marshfield.vt.us/vertical/sites/%7BDE838A07-5D57-4E6F-95DF-7C05B7FB1126%7D/uploads/TownPlan_as_adopted_091812\(2\).pdf](http://www.town.marshfield.vt.us/vertical/sites/%7BDE838A07-5D57-4E6F-95DF-7C05B7FB1126%7D/uploads/TownPlan_as_adopted_091812(2).pdf)) and said this is way out of date, last updated in 2010
 - Becky pointed out that the suggested approach in Chapter 6 needs to be consistent with the rest of the town plan.
 - Meet Monday June 12th at 7:00pm at the Old Schoolhouse Common
 - Prep for the meeting by reviewing:
 - Marshfield town plan (see link above), chapters 5 and 6
 - Review the Marshfield Energy Data (see centralvtplanning.org link above)
 - Review (or start to review) the recommendations and determination standards from the public service board (<http://publicservice.vermont.gov/content/act-174-recommendations-and-determination-standards>)
 - Michael will reach out to regional planning commission for an example town plan that meets Act 174. He will have this for the meeting on the 12th.
 - Michael raised the question about if anyone has spoken to the selectboard about trying to get substantial deference and if this is OK and supported.
 - The suggestion is to bring a proposal to the selectboard once we have something a bit more concrete (after June 12th meeting, ideally)
 - Should we try to talk to the Selectboard at their June 20th meeting, If the meeting goes well on the 12th.
 - This meeting needs to be warned.
 - Nick will post to FPF
 - Need to figure out who will post in town
- Discuss a future public cookout/conversation/discussion/forum about Act 174 and what people want.

- We need to figure out how to bring people into an event like this.
- A few suggestions were discussed. One which seemed to be agreed on was to start a thread of conversations on Front Porch Forum and try to spark some conversations.
 - Nick will post the first one, and will circulate on the energy committee mailing list for discussion prior to posting to FPF.
 - Others will then add additional thoughts on this throughout the next week/weeks to keep the conversation going.
 - Discussion of what to post will be through the email list.
- General topic is for a vision of Marshfield's energy future, what people want to see, where people do and don't want to see energy projects, etc.
- Plainfield Updates
 - No one from plainfield is present, so no updates.
- Agreement on minutes
- Draft agenda for July meeting
 - Select a facilitator
 - Public comment
 - Announcements
 - Agenda modification
 - Approval of previous minutes
 - Business
 - Town plan discussion
 - Picnic/cookout/conversation discussion
 - Plainfield updates
 - Draft agenda for next meeting
- Set next full committee meeting
 - July 10th, 2017 due to the July 4th holiday and likely vacation plans.