

Draft Hartford Energy Commission minutes
April 22, 2021

Present: Molly Smith, Lynn Bohi, Martha McDaniel, Erik Krauss, Ashton Todd; Dan Fraser, Selectboard; Tracy Yarlott-Davis, Town Manager Sally Bellew, guest

Molly called the meeting to order at 5:02pm by reading the Act 92 statement.

Agenda Additions: hiring process for Energy Coordinator

Minutes: After minor corrections, Erik moved and Martha seconded that the March minutes pass as amended. The motion passed.

Welcome: HEC welcomed Dan and Tracy to the meeting by introducing ourselves.

BIPOC statement: Dan and Tracy were asked how HEC can post this to the town webpage. Tracy said the theory is that each committee has a webpage linked to the Town website. The Selectboard liaison would bring the statement to the whole Selectboard. It is unclear if the Selectboard needs to vote on this. Tracy would suggest the Selectboard should vote. However, there was an explosion at a recent Selectboard meeting on a similar subject. HEC should be cautious. HEC will continue with monthly articles in the HEC Herald. Meanwhile, HEC can look at the last sentence of our statement which mentions policies and actions. It is possible that if HEC takes policies and actions to the Selectboard, they might be more favorable.

Energy Coordinator hiring process: Lori has written a draft of a job description, which Tracy will read. Tracy was asked the timeline. The person can not start until July 1. Tracy is looking at who will review the applications, and conduct the interviews. The Selectboard needs to approve the job description. The RFP should be available for the month of May.

HEC Herald: May is Asian and Pacific Island peoples month as well as national bike month. Ashton will continue with part three by focusing on Electric Vehicles (EV). Perhaps it makes sense to focus on sea levels reducing the size of the Pacific Islands. Another article will focus on alternate modes of travel to use to go to see local restaurants and interesting places to visit locally. The deadline is Sunday, May 16. A survey of residents might educate us about what people would like to read about. Maybe the Herald can be posted to the Town Facebook page

Updates:

- Climate Advisory Committee: The committee has refined and scored possible actions. Pale Blue Team is prioritizing the actions currently. The next committee step is to list leaders, partners and advocates. The draft plan is due May 12 for review. The Climate Action Plan is on the Town website. Erik has posted the founding documents on the website. It is hoped that at the June 29 Selectboard meeting the full plan will be presented. This is for the board as well as the public to learn more about the plan.

- Building integrity: The UVM pipe guard team has installed a pilot on one home. May 5 at 6:30pm the students are presenting their ideas. This will be by all UVM teams. May 7 at 3:00pm will be a presentation about just the Hartford project. It is hoped that, if successful, Vital Communities and COVER will take over the project and have a six to twelve home pilot to collect more data.
- Window-dressers program will becoming
- Transportation: E-bikes: the firstly loans are out. Demo slots are mostly filled. The main problem is building access. HEC then finalized time for each slot during the three weeks. May 8 at 9:00am the bikes will return to Todd. There is an information sheet about the bikes, where to buy or rent them locally, and incentives that will be given to each renter. There is a check out and check in sheet for HEC to fill out. HEC job is to talk to the users, who need to bring a photo ID, and sign the waiver. Remind renters that the bikes cannot be placed in bike racks, need to be stored inside a locked space, and bring a helmet if the renter owns one.

Recruitment: Carolyn Frye will be a guest next month. There are still more slots to fill.

Bylaws: The bylaws say members need to live in town. Can that be changed?

RPC report card: Two Rivers Ottauquechee Regional Commission has a report card for each town n their region. Hartford is asking for more information. Hopefully someone can provide this for the May meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 6:35pm.

Lynn Bohi, Clerk