

Cast Meeting August 17, 2022

Present: Laura Simon, Carolyn Hooper, Lee Michaelides, Dana Clawson, Ashton Todd, Quorum was met.

Minutes from May 18 and June 1 minutes approved.

Laura volunteered to ask Green Mountain Power about what constitutes a “resilience zone” and how one works.

SB presentation follow-up. Dana presented to the SB on August 16. Among his proposals were a facilities manager, insulation the Bugbee Center. Dana will start work with the UNH climate model group to measure gas reduction. It will help the town measure the most effective way to spend money for the greatest amount of carbon reduction. Climate Advisory Committee will be disbanded. CAST will become a permanent group under the Energy Committee.

Trail Blazer Program Recap: Hartford Energy Commission was by asked by the Hartland Energy Commission to start a Trail Blazer program for training women for construction jobs. One of the training teaches green building techniques. The \$30,000 fee would be shared by the two towns based on enrollment.

VCRD Climate Catalyst program is opening for enrolled for 2023.

What kind of projects will Hartford want to do next year? Solarize is a good fit for HEC. Ashton thought that HEC might take on the project. Examples of the effort are Solarize Hartland and Solarize Norwich. How can CAST interface with SEVCA to help them find staff to get more houses weatherized? The Conservation Commission will report on areas where they would like to advance the Climate Action Plan. Still waiting to hear from Tree Board, Planning Commission and Parks & Rec.

VLS Decarbonization Program: Laura says if we come up with a project they can help the paperwork such as RFPs, solar systems and town zoning large solar systems. Dana has submitted two projects, One request is how to make zoning easier for large scale solar to be built in commercial zones. Dana is working with Lebanon for regional car charge stations.

Discussed the proposed solar array off of Rt 14. This will be a net metered system that will be decided on by the PUC (not the town.) If CAST objects to the project, it will be limited to sending a letter to the PUC. The assessor isn't sure that the town can levy property taxes on the system due to the connection with Green Mountain Power.

Next Meeting: To be determined