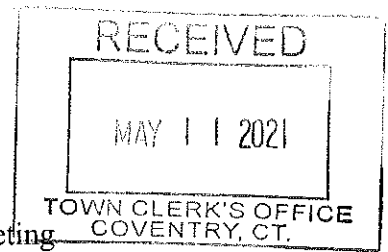


Town of Coventry
Energy Efficiency and Alternative Energy Committee Meeting



Meeting: April 14, 2021

Location: Virtual meeting due to Covid-19

Members Present: Jenn Reilly, Kristine Dennis, Cameron Crutch, Bill Watkins, Bill Glenney, Wayne Daignault

Members Absent: Caroline Davis

Audience of Citizens: None

Call to Order: Jenn Reilly called the meeting to order at 6:36 PM

Jenn welcomed all the members and each member gave a brief overview of themselves since there were many new members joining the Committee for the first time.

Jenn provided an overview of the Energy Committee and the initiatives the group has been involved in over the years and the challenges that Committee has faced. There was a question/answer period. Power Point and Coventry's High-Five Energy/Sustainability Plan (part of Eastern CT Sustainability-Silver status) is attached to these minutes.

New Business:

Jenn informed the Committee that in the past the group has organized/co-hosted a Growing a Green Community Day at the Coventry Farmers Market and gauged interest in if members wanted to help plan a 2021 event. Members were in favor of this idea and Jenn will contact the Farmers Market Committee to explore possible dates in June or late summer.

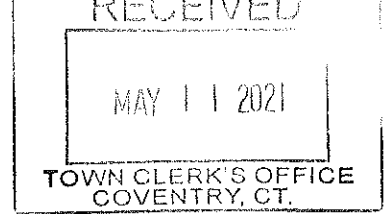
Jenn informed the Committee that there was an opportunity for a member to attend a COST virtual seminar on 4/22/21 from 9:30 am to 11 am, on Achieving Your Sustainability Goals: A Roadmap to Developing a Comprehensive Plan. Jenn offered to send the info directly to any member that was interested in attending the seminar.

The Committee set the schedule for the remainder of the 2021 calendar year. Meetings will occur the first Wednesday of every month at 6:30.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:34pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristine Dennis
Secretary



High-Five Energy/Sustainability Plan

Five target areas for energy/sustainability improvements over the next five years: July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2023

1. Reduce purchased electricity by an additional 5% over five years.

Targets:

- Explore microgrid power generation with CNG at CHS/Town Hall area
- Utilize solar security lights
- Convert preschool roof top unit to natural gas
- Add solar to Orchard Hills senior housing complex
- Convert Library lighting to LED
- Install additional occupancy sensors
- Convert additional interior lighting to LED
- Pursue virtual net metering solar projects
- Implement more efficient unit ventilation in school classrooms
- Institute procedure to turn off monitors after work hours

2. Reduce purchased oil by an additional 5% over five years.

Targets:

- Boiler replacement to high energy efficient oil boiler at GH Robertson School, Coventry Grammar School and Booth & Dimock Library
- Increase use of used oil at Department of Public Works waste oil furnace
- Install remote access thermostats (e.g. NEST) at rental facilities to assure heat set back after events

3. Reduce diesel/gasoline gallons used by 5% over five years.

Targets:

- Purchase more efficient and cleaner diesel trucks
- Increase EV fleet (watch for grant possibilities)
- Adopt more stringent idling policy and look into ways for solar powered lighting for police cars on road construction jobs

- Experiment with battery-operated line trimmers, trim mowers, snow throwers (e.g. Snow Joe, Sun Joe)
 - Explore eliminating one school bus route
 - Study impacts of centralized bus depot vs. current location on fringe of town
4. Reduce per household waste tonnage by 5% and increase recycling by 5% within five years.

Targets:

- Increase education on recycling including additional mailings and recycling decals
 - Promote fabric recycling
 - Continue composting program and increase education
 - Increase education on purchasing reduced packaging items
 - Increase education on non-curb-side recycling like household chemicals, fabrics, oil, paints, electronics, metals, prescription drugs, leaves/grass
 - Make additional dumpsters for co-mingled recyclables available for peak holiday seasons
 - Continue Shred-it Days
5. Increase education events by 5% over five years.

Targets:

- Continue annual energy/sustainability fair with Farmers' Market and add two additional events (3 annual events)
- Use email list to target interested persons for bi-monthly tips
- Promote Home Energy Solutions to get to 20% of households
- Host another natural gas and Smart E-Loan event
- Increase web postings and links
- Make annual presentation to Town Council of program
- Work with Library and Recreation for energy/sustainability forums