

Northfield Energy Committee Minutes of August 17, 2021

Present: Sarah Wolfe, Bob Keeley, and Patrick Meehan, Gail Hall

Meeting was called to order at 6:34 by Chair Sarah Wolfe

Public Participation: None

July 20, 2021 Minutes: Motion to approve (Bob), Seconded (Pat). Unanimously Approved.

Kiosk Update:

- On August 11 hosta planting took place at the Kiosk garden.
- Christine Barnes from Master Gardeners was of great assistance.
- Adam Sevi stopped by and helped with the heavy lifting.
- Because some community members were concerned about deer being attracted to the Common by the hosta plants, an effective deer repellent was applied to the hosta plant leaves
- Thanks were conveyed to the community members through FPF (Bags of trail mix were shared with folks who brought hostas on that day.)

Night on the Common Participation

- NEC agreed to attend the Night on the Common event on August 31 from 5:30-7:30. We should arrive by 5:00 PM.
- Sarah will develop two posters with question prompts to determine public their views about aspects of a Northfield EV station.
- Bob will determine whether the LocoMotion organization might be willing to join us.
 - An alternative could be E-bike demonstrations
- Sarah will bring table and tablecloths
- Bob will bring two easels to hold posters and markers
- Patrick will bring butcher paper roll and markers

LocoMotion Update

- Bob attended a Randolph Energy Committee meeting to learn about their initiatives.

- They worked with LocoMotion—a non-profit organization-- to demonstrate E-bikes to the town for two weeks of Demo Days at VTC.
- As a result, Randolph community members were energized to use E-bikes in daily travels.
- Discussion followed re: when NEC might invite this group for a Northfield event—perhaps August 31, perhaps at Night on the Crescent, perhaps in the Spring, perhaps in conjunction with the Kiosk opening.

EV Charger Discussion

- So far-no response from the Utilities Commission. Sarah will check in with Jeff Schulz

Education campaign update:

- Nothing new—This was a positive engagement for participants and for the NEC.
- EV education campaign is beginning with the Night on the Common initiative.

Building Energy Campaign

- Brown Public Library walk-through and audit have been completed.
 - Report is being prepared by Energy Smart and Efficiency Vermont evaluators.
 - Sarah will discuss the report at the next BPL meeting on September 21 at 5:00PM

Upcoming Email Newsletter

- Bob will share our various upcoming events and updates with the NEC mailing list.
 - EV campaign—come meet us during the Night on the Common
 - E-bike ideas
 - Kiosk progress
 - BPL energy audit
 - Pictures of Patrick's house

Other business:

- None

Meeting was adjourned at 7:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Hall, Secretary