

TOWN OF NORTHFIELD, VERMONT
NORTHFIELD ENERGY COMMITTEE
Minutes of January 21, 2025

- I. Roll Call 7:00 pm
 - a. Attending—J. Wantuch; P. Meehan; G. Hall, Debbie New, Sam Lash, Sheila Bannister, Chandler Murch
- II. Public Participation (Scheduled): None
- III. Approval of Minutes from 11-19-2024 7:11pm
- IV. Introductions
 - a. Committee members and visitors introduced themselves
 - 1. Sam Lash—Climate Energy Planner from CVV Regional Energy Commission
 - 2. Debbie New—Coordinator, VT Community Thermal Networks
 - 3. Sheila Bannister—Northfield resident, interested in joining NEC
 - 4. Chandler Murch—Northfield resident interested in joining NEC
 - 5. Joe Wantuch—NEC Chairperson
 - 6. Patrick Meehan—NEC Treasurer
 - 7. Gail Hall—NEC Secretary
- V. Discussion
 - a. Thermal Energy Networks
 - 1. Joe described current efforts to coordinate Thermal Energy connections in
Northfield
 - 2. Sam shared regional opportunities for grant support for small,-scale rural energy projects for investigation.
 - b. Clean Energy Group/Clean Energy Alliance
 - c. DOE on-site programs
 - 1. Members described the potential for energy efficiency with a Northfield business.
 - 2. The NEC initiative was encouraged and it was suggested to start with single energy 'node' that might be expanded at a future time.

3. NEC was encouraged to develop specifics for the plan to share with Northfield Selectboard.
4. It was determined that NEC would need to obtain a timeline of Town projects that might provide opportunity for beginnings of TEN infrastructure.
5. It was also suggested that a concept drawing would enhance understanding of the NEC plan.
6. It was evident that a meeting of NEC with Town Economic Development Coordinator would be critical to the planning process.,
7. Suggested steps
 - i. Obtain Town Project List and compare with Map locations
 - ii. Plan with TEN advisors (Deb and Jared)
 - iii. Determine appropriate funding sources and apply
 - iv. Take plan to Selectboard.
 - v. It was also suggested that a Town Planning Commission representative be a part-time liaison with NEC.

VI. Action Items

- a. Obtain list of upcoming Town Projects—Gail & Sam
- b. Connect with Town Economic Development Coordinator –Sam & Joe
- c. Connect with Rubin MacMartin—Central Vermont Regional Planner—Sam & Patrick
- d. Bring potential NEC members up to speed with Committee work—Joe

VII. Public Participation (none)

VIII. Adjourn 8:00 pm