

# Northfield Energy Committee

## Minutes of November 17, 2020

**Present:** NEC Members: Denise MacMartin, Sarah Wolfe, Gail Hall (via Google Meet)  
Public Participants: Patrick Meehan

Meeting called to order shortly after 6:00 pm by Interim Chair, Sarah Wolfe.

October 2020 minutes were approved.

Community Connections Kiosk: Gail gave an update on the foundation pouring that was done on 11/13. We need an additional \$2200 in funding. Some community groups/organizations are considering contributions and will be back in touch with Gail soon. There is also a grant application under review at VSECU. Patrick suggested we look for more donations of materials as a way to manage some of the costs. Gail has spoken with the gardeners who maintain the flower beds around the Common, as well as the folks involved in maintaining Dog River Park. They are considering some help with the Rain Garden feature. Trombly's Greenhouse will be donating top soil for the garden.

Button Up: The campaign is coming to an end in December. One of the last Weatherization Wednesdays will feature Bob Keeley's home visit. After the wrap-up we'll get a report on Northfield's participation.

GMT: Sarah attended the select board meeting where this was discussed as part of the budget. It seems like it will appear as a ballot item in 2021. Ridership is down 32-34% from last year, but ridership throughout their service area is down. Those who depend on GMT are still using it, so there continues to be regular riders. Micro-transit is launching in Montpelier in 2021 and we will watch that to see how it works and what may be adaptable to more rural areas.

Goals for 2021: Some addition/discussion to our previous brainstorming:

- Where does our power come from?
- Engaging more with the Utility Commission and other energy partners
- Promotions of our projects and energy tips/messages on a regular basis, such as monthly in the Northfield News, FPF/FB
- EV charging station – further in the future with more research needed
- Follow up on All Earth Rail

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Denise MacMartin, NEC Secretary