CONSERVATION, ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

CEEC EMAIL: ceec06002@comcast.net

Thursday, December 12, 2019—7:00 PM

Bloomfield Town Hall—Conference Room #2, First Floor

Minutes

1. Acting Chair: Charlie Horn
2. Call to Order—7:00 PM
3. Roll Call:
   a. Members present: David Hager, Charlie Horn, Paula Jones, Vicki Reski, Valerie Rossetti
   b. Members absent: Dwight Bolton, Seth Pitts, Zellene Sandler
   c. Guests: Claudia Gwardyak, Jeffrey Gertz, Carmela Garafalo
4. Agenda: agenda approved with a several items added: Next TPZ meeting on potential new business behind Lowes; meeting with John Lawlor; Shred Day.
5. Approval of minutes from November 14, 2019. Minutes were approved with one minor edit to remove reference to an attachment.
6. Public Comments: Jeffrey Gertz expressed concern that finding information on what and how and where to recycle was difficult and that much of what is recycled is contaminated and then “thrown out.” Suggestion made that he could refer to www.recyclect.com/ and Materials Innovation and Recycling Authority (MIRA).
7. Follow up on Facilitated Discussion of CEEC Priorities:
   a. It was felt that the session chaired by Emily Hultquist last month was productive. Operationally all agreed we need to continue to improve communication with town staff since the CEEC members are volunteers and not experts.
   b. All agreed that Ashley Stewart has been a great asset and the hope is that her job will be continued and that work on Sustainable CT will be an important part of the next employee’s role.
   c. Val and Charlie had an encouraging meeting with John Lawlor of Public Works.
      i. He is very interested in defining which public buildings are suited to solar panels. He asked for input regarding hiring a neutral consultant who can look at the Bloomfield public buildings and give unbiased recommendations as to where solar panels can be placed and what is the best way to obtain them (lease or buy). Apparently East Windsor has just completed solar installations; Charlie will follow up with E. Windsor and with West Hartford energy consultant.
ii. John Lawlor is interested in a yearly energy review in which building improvements can be discussed and suggested; April is the best month for this meeting. He stated that he will organize the meeting and will include the Board of Education.

iii. John Lawlor is a board member of the Connecticut Solid Waste Association. He would like to use his position on the board to encourage fabric recycling in Bloomfield.

d. Multiple other projects mentioned in the November 14th meeting were discussed: development of a pre-development “check list” for planning construction in Bloomfield, composting, electric vehicles, etc. A list on the whiteboard was then developed and “voted” on. (See attached) Recycling & Composting, solar panels on town buildings, and a pre-development conference checklist had the most votes. Members will study the projects and aim for further discussion next month.

8. Old Business:
   a. Shred Day—the Town Manager would like to meet with the CEEC and discuss the last Shred Day. (There were a few problems with the shred truck being late, the need to put material on the driveway, some traffic issues, etc.) Perhaps there should be only one Shred Day a year and the town should assume more responsibility for it. Charlie will invite the Town Manager to a future meeting.
   b. The Community Solar Project is complete and a ribbon cutting ceremony done.
   c. There is no real data from the “solarize” campaign; Charlie is calling the vendors; there may not be a check to the town fuel bank this year given the anticipated very few solar completions done.
   d. Charlie encouraged viewing the PACE website particularly with respect to the goal of transitioning to 100% renewable energy and considering heat pumps. See https://pacecleanenergy.org/
   e. Val completed the CEEC report for the Town of Bloomfield annual report.

9. New Business:
   a. Claudia Gwardyak stressed the need for communicating more of the CEEC activity and Bloomfield climate and energy news (such as the ribbon cutting for the completed Community Solar Project) to Bloomfield residents. She volunteered and was enthusiastically accepted as the CEEC volunteer who will be in charge of communication.

10. Next meeting will be on January 9, 2020.

11. The 2020 CEEC meeting schedule for 2020 was voted on and accepted. All meetings will be in the Bloomfield Town Hall—conference room #2, at 7:00 PM. The schedule is as follows: January 9, February 13, March 12, April 9, May 14, June 11, July 9, August 13, September 10, October 8, November 12, and December 10.

12. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM

Submitted by David Hager