

Regional Energy Plan Implementation Grant

Meeting Notes

September 5, 2019 – Bethel Town Hall

Attendance: Jim Dague – Granville Selectboard; Zach Ralph – Sustainable Woodstock; Mike Kiess – Thetford Energy Committee; Erica Ko – Thetford Energy Committee; Linda Gray – Norwich Energy Committee; Samantha Sheehan – Hancock Planning Commission; Monica Collins – Hancock Selectboard; Jeff Martin – Hartford Energy Coordinator; Kevin Grady – Strafford Energy Committee; Paige Greenfield – TRORC; Dee Gish – TRORC.

1. Reviewed Efficiency Vermont Regional Energy Plan Implementation Grant parameters.
2. Discussion of Energy Committee success stories, priorities for use of the grant funds, and areas of interest for collaboration.
  - i. Hold sub-regional energy meetings
    1. Granville, Hancock, Rochester and maybe Pittsfield, Stockbridge
    2. Norwich, Thetford
    3. Sharon, Strafford, Royalton, Tunbridge
    4. Woodstock, Pomfret, Barnard
  - ii. Target specific commercial/business for energy savings consultations
  - iii. Connect with preexisting groups and campaigns
  - iv. WindowDressers activities – current project with Thetford and Strafford committees
  - v. Explore mid-income incentives/financing for weatherization
  - vi. Shared energy projects among towns to provide critical mass of volunteers (i.e.: regional weatherization team)
  - vii. Weatherization loans/financing workshop (VSECU, Heat Saver Loan, Capstone, Cover)
  - viii. Reducing overall energy use in Towns
  - ix. RPC should advocate regional energy priorities in the legislature
  - x. Provide materials/activities to recruit Energy Committee members
  - xi. Provide legal clarifications and information for the formation of Energy Committees (fundraising, liability, insurance)
  - xii. Project – based volunteerism for a day, instead of joining an Energy Committee
  - xiii. Energy Committee tabling at recycling or transfer stations
  - xiv. Regional community net-metering project
  - xv. Seeking energy volunteers on list-serves and Front Porch Forum
3. Grant Surveys collected
4. Next steps:
  - i. TRORC will distribute meeting notes, slides and surveys to attendees and those who were not present.
  - ii. Regional meetings and events will be scheduled.
5. Meeting adjourned 8:00 pm

Questions, please contact Dee Gish at [dgish@trorc](mailto:dgish@trorc).

Gerald Fredrickson, Chair ~ Peter G. Gregory, AICP, Executive Director  
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