



**IREC Steering Committee
MINUTES of June 13, 2023 Meeting**

Present: Jeff Grout, Linda Gray, Ryan Haac, Nancy Jones, Erica, Ko, Jenevra Wetmore

1. Welcome/ agenda: no changes.

2. Minutes of the May 9 meeting approved.

Action: Jeff will post to DropBox.

3. MowElectric Demo Day

This demonstration of electric landscaping equipment is scheduled for Thursday, 6/22, at Woodstock HS, with 5 vendors. Jeff asked all Steering Committee members to help publicize.

Actions:

A. Jeff will send the latest version of the event flyer.

B. Jenevra will publicize to a standard list she has; Linda can volunteer at the event.

C. Steering Committee members will contact their town's administrator / selectboard / school facilities manager and post to their local list serv (message to residents can include a prompt to ask their current mowing contractor to attend the demo).

4. Lawson's Solar Canopy site visit

The visit is scheduled for Wednesday, June 28, 4 pm; about 10 are signed up now, we can invite anyone we think would be interested.

5. Electric School Bus grants

Focus is on large fleets, 15 bus minimum, no applicable to any among the IREC towns. An additional eBus grant similar to the 2021 grant scheduled for release this year in the fall.

6. VT Geo-thermal Coalition presentation for ECs and SBs.

Action: contact Jeff if interested

7. VT EVSE grant.

Release of grant details is imminent; grant is direct through Green Mountain Power

Action: Jeff will circulate a link when available.

8. Energy Inventory Update: Jeff is tracking municipal energy usage for each town, expects to complete all within a couple more months.

Action: if any town needs the information more quickly, alert Jeff and he can prioritize.

9. Town Climate Pledges: Erica is interested in knowing what other towns have done, as the Thetford committee is seeking ways to consistently guide town boards/commissions on climate action, regardless of turnover in their members. Examples from Woodstock, Norwich, and Sharon were circulated. General discussion highlighted that voter-backed statements can be a useful tool, but steady action still requires some climate champions.

Municipal Energy Resilience Program (MERP) update: 6 of the towns have gotten the mini-grant (only Barnard did not apply).

Action: Jeff will set up a tally of how each town will use the grant.



Respectfully submitted,
Jeff Grout