



# TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD

## MEETING MINUTES

### West Hartford Clean Energy Commission

August 13, 2018

7:00 PM

Rm 422

#### 1. Roll Call 7PM

Member	Present	Alternates	Present
Catherine Diviney	yes	Robert Palmer	no
Chris Nelson	yes	Dave Mello	yes
Joe Campanella	yes	James Capella	yes
Bernie Pelletier	yes		
Max DuBuisson	yes		
<b>Total</b>	7		
<b>Additional Attendees</b>	Jeanne Grandy, Gerry Hayes, Jim Henkel, Owen Eagan		

#### 2. Approval of Minutes

- a. July 9, 2018 - Approved

#### 3. Communications/Administration

- a. Katherine Bruns - Katherine has moved out of state and won't be able to work on the Commission in the future. We thank her for her work and hope that she stays in touch.

#### 4. Business

- a. Sustainable CT- Catherine reports that the town is working towards an August 24<sup>th</sup> deadline for Bronze certification. Housing equity and open space management are the two incomplete areas. Catherine expressed cautious optimism that we will complete the required documentation, but could not be certain.

#### b. 2018 Special Events Reports – Action Items in **Highlight**

- K-O EV Car Show 9/8 - **Matt Macunas, Max DuBuisson, James Capella**
  - i. The EV car show is in good shape. 21 vehicles are signed up and various other businesses are in the works. **We've reached out to Legrand and await their response. We will investigate whether any graphics about EVs should be created.**
- Chamber of Commerce Education Seminar – **Joe Campanella, James Capella**
  - i. Joe and James have 4 concentration groups – Healthcare, Restaurants, Manufacturing, and spirit shops. The lists included Chamber of Commerce members and other WH businesses. **The plan is to talk with Earthlight to choose a group and an approach. Catherine will consult with Rob Rowilson to ask for his assistance.**
- Solar Campaign – **Dan Tavelli, Aaron Hills, Bernie Pelletier**
  - i. **Bernie will write up a document that employs on line tools (e.g. Energysage) to be circulated via email with the help of Renee McCue**

- Recycling / Food Waste – **Chris Nelson, Deborah Roe**
  - i. Deborah Roe has done some investigative work on food recycling – this will be shared with the group. Chris divided the work into general recycling and food recycling. A number of possible actions were discussed including posting DEEP videos on WH TV, hosting a panel of experts on recycling, and reaching out to John Phillips. Chris Nelson noted that because the Chinese are not accepting recycling the US must rebuild its infrastructure.
- Community TV Spots – **Dave Mello, Joe Campanella, Matt Macunas, Bernie Pelletier**
  - i. We will post a Heat Pump video and are looking for additional videos.

c. 100PercentCT Project & Energy Plan

- Bernie has updated auto info for WH
  - i. Bernie discussed the 2017 100PercentCT update briefly. The number of Autos in WH has increased – but so has public transportation. In general the energy use and greenhouse gas output of the town has decreased impressively due to a combination of conservation, behind the meter solar, and conversions from oil heat to gas heat.
- Bernie and Catherine will work on this in light of Matt Hart’s desire to focus more broadly on Carbon Footprint/GHG Emissions
  - i. Once the 100Percent Analysis is completed (within 2 weeks) – it will be shared with Matt Hart.

d. POCD

- Catherine indicated that Todd Dumais has begun work on the POCD. Catherine will let them know the CEC has input for them. Some of that is appended to the minutes.

e. Heat pump letter – Bernie and Catherine will finalize – no action

## 5. Other Business

- The town has adopted a policy on Fracking Waste. This policy is far short of a town wide ordinance but still an indication of general support for the concept. Member of the CEC expressed concern that if fracking waste makes its way into WH the damage will be done.
- Jim Henkel, James Capella, and Bernie Pelletier discussed their visit to the Brainard Road MDC construction project. The project is impressive and will yield environmental benefits. However that Massachusetts sewerage will still foul the river. Also the MDC project won’t handle every storm. Costs to consumers in MDC towns will continue to rise for years to fund these projects. We should engage MDC and the town to take proactive storm water management actions mitigating the need for additional construction.

## 6. Adjournment 9 PM

## High level input on the POCD:

Our POCD - <https://www.westhartfordct.gov/civicax/filebank/blobdload.aspx?BlobID=26592>

The town has an RFP for a consultant:

<https://www.westhartfordct.gov/civicax/bids/inc/blobfetch.aspx?blobid=37379%20> to hire a consultant to help with the update.

It has been stated that this update will be more of a refresh/update than an entire “re-do”.

Some general points:

- In Transportation and in Sustainability we want to make sure that proper attention is paid to EV adoption and infrastructure build out.
  - E.g. - new construction should allow for EV charging in apartments and condos.
  - We should track adoption progress
- We currently reference the 80% drop in Green House Gas by 2050. We should also reference the recently adopted requirements for sustainable electric generation.
- We should mention resiliency of the electric grid:
  - Microgrid architecture
  - Storage of Electric for resiliency purposes
  - Ability of both Electric grid and Gas pipelines to survive extreme weather events
- We should refer to our soon to be completed community energy plan - with some high points from that document
- The SustainableCT 9 areas of action should be acknowledged.
- It is not our area - but I would think we'd want to talk about WiFi at the town level
- A key area that is **not mentioned** is Water and Sewer. Even though MDC is the partner responsible for this we have a role to play. Development should reflect water use, water runoff, with a focus on conservation