



TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD

AGENDA

West Hartford Clean Energy Commission

May 13, 2019

7:00 PM

Rm 422

1. Roll Call

Member	Present	Alternates	Present
Catherine Diviney	Yes	Robert Palmer	No
Chris Nelson	No	Dave Mello	No
Joe Campanella	Yes	James Capella	No
Bernie Pelletier	Yes		
Max DuBuisson	No		
Total	(3 needed for quorum)		
Additional Attendees	Patrick Sanady, Samantha Dynowski, Julia Farber, Samuel King		

2. Approval of Minutes

- a. April 15, 2019 - Approved

3. Communications/Administration

- a. Freedom of Information workshop for town – Dave Mello attended (2 months ago)
- b. Fellowship Housing Project

This is a new construction project of affordable senior housing across from Bishops Corner Library. 20H Starkel Rd. It is a non-profit but on Town-owned land. Sonja Davis, President of Board of Fellowship Housing, met Catherine at MDC meeting. Catherine has since met with Mark Garilli of Construction Solutions Group, their owner's rep for redevelopment. Only 1 building (gas heat) with 40 Section 8 units will remain. They are tearing down 23 of 24 buildings with (all electric resistance heat) and rebuilding 6 large building. Total units are increasing from 218 to 308. Great opportunity for green design or even Net Zero. They are early in the process. Catherine has connected the project team to Eversource New Construction (focus on HERS rating) and C-PACE programs. Baecuase building are on Town land we should have a say/stake in their energy criteria. The WH-CEC will draft a letter of support for a Net Zero replacement standard for these buildings.

- c. Land trust approached WH-CEC about Trex plastic challenge.

We approved by vote that WH-CEC would cosponsor. We've also heard that the rotary club may be interested and potentially we'll work on this together. Catherine will also put them in touch with the Conservation and Environment Commission

- d. Update on combining with Conservation and Environment Commission

No additional news, Catherine's meeting with Todd has been postponed several times.

4. Upcoming Events

- a. Saturday, May 18, 2019 from 9 AM - 1 PM. West Hartford's Department of Public Works will hold its 7th Annual Open House at 17 Brixton Street in observance of National Public Works Week.
- b. Tuesday, May 28, 6 PM, St. James's Church, WH – Sierra Ready for 100 Discussion

- c. Tuesday, May 28, 7PM, St. James's Church, WH – West Hartford RF100 team discussion – public invited
- d. Sat & Sun, June 1 and 2, Celebrate West Hartford. Sign-up emailed.
- e. CTGBC Chapter Meeting and tour at Legrand US has been **postponed to June 24(?)** and will now include a panel on residential housing. More info to follow. \$10 tkt

5. Business

a. "TED" talk – Sam King – Blue Earth Compost

Samuel King of Blue Earth led a discussion of the progress that Blue Earth Compost is making in West Hartford and surrounding towns. Blue Earth has composting services for Residents, Businesses, and Events. Currently Blue Earth has about 250 residential customers in WH and 150 in surrounding towns. The service currently costs \$30 per month for weekly pick-up and \$20 per month for every other week pick-up. They are encouraged by the growth which will enable them to keep their costs per pickup low. They are interested in expanding to cover as much of the town as possible. The CEC discussed the concept that because food recycling requires attention on the part of residents – it may wise be to grow this service from the bottom up rather than instituting a town wide service. The latter option would be expensive and would have many residents who would not participate. Blue Earth spends time to ensure that the material that they send to Quantum BioPower is properly sorted.

b. WH-CEC participation at Celebrate West Hartford

- Highlight Energy Resources – WH-CEC can't endorse a specific company.
- Use SustainableCT as an outreach bridge – the WH-CEC elected to focus on renewable energy and energy efficiency using the town's progress as example. SustainableCT will be mentioned.
- Resources to help residents recycle properly – WH-CEC will be near Paine's booth and we will work with them so they deliver that message and sorting game.
- Graphics displaying WH Municipal progress –
 - i. We will make 2 or perhaps 3 graphics showing the town's energy progress (Joe C to check printer)
 - ii. We will make small pledge cards with energy actions for people to take – the first will be to join Sustainable West Hartford
- Other topics - encourage Sustainable WH facebook sign ups, give away blue Energize CT bags
- Volunteer sign-up – will be sent by email

c. Discussion of creating a business advisory committee to assist the CEC with outreach to business. – **this topic was deferred**

- Interest (yes or no)
- Better to have in WH-CEC or Chamber of Commerce (with WH-CEC as a participant)?

d. Sister City task force report – a few invitations out to cities (US and Netherlands) – no response. There was a suggestion that Fall Church, VA might be an interesting choice. They have made some pretty strong progress on energy and recycling issues.

e. Community Energy Plan – plan to set up regular meetings with Simsbury about the plan to hopefully get the plan over the line

f. Ongoing Campaigns – Status:

- Business outreach – **no discussion**

- **Solar for all** – campaign wrapped up – Emily Basham to write a wrap up for us to post on town Website. Only 7 WH projects. Hartford more successful
- **Solview** – discussions on going
- **Recycling** – food waste – Aiken Elementary School starting a food waste program as pilot/learning between now and end of school
- **Community TV** – **no discussion**
- **Sierra Ready for 100/100PercentCT** – Sam Dynowski reports that we have a team consisting of Sam Dynowski, Chris Feely, Patrick Sanady, Ann Pratt, Julia Farber, Bernie Pelletier, and 1 more. They will meet at 7 PM after the May 28 talk to do a community mapping exercise
- **Plastic Bag Ban /Schools Trex Plastic Challenge-** program ended on Earth Day with a report due soon
- **Brownfields in town** – site for solar (Agora ballroom?) – **no discussion**

6. AOB

7. Adjournment at 8:55

Next meeting June 10, 2019 Town Hall Room 422

NAME OF PUBLIC AGENCY:	CLEAN ENERGY COMMISSION
Meetings to be held (place):	Town Hall - Room 422
Meetings begin at (time):	7:00
Meetings are held on the following dates:	
JANUARY 2019	14th
FEBRUARY	11th
MARCH	11th
APRIL	15th
MAY	13th
JUNE	10th
JULY	15th
AUGUST	12th
SEPTEMBER	16th
OCTOBER	21st
NOVEMBER	18th
DECEMBER	16th
*JANUARY 2020	13th