



TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD

MEETING MINUTES

West Hartford Clean Energy Commission

February 11, 2019

7:00 PM

Rm 422

1. Roll Call 7:00 PM

Member	Present	Alternates	Present
Catherine Diviney	No	Robert Palmer	No
Chris Nelson	Yes	Dave Mello	Yes
Joe Campanella	No	James Capella	Yes
Bernie Pelletier	Yes		
Max DuBuisson	Yes		
Total	(3 needed for quorum)		
Additional Attendees	Lara Siopis, Stephen Atkins, Dorena Atkins, Bonnie and Erin McFarland, Samantha Dynowski		

2. Approval of Minutes

- a. Jan 14, 2019 - Approved

3. Communications/Administration

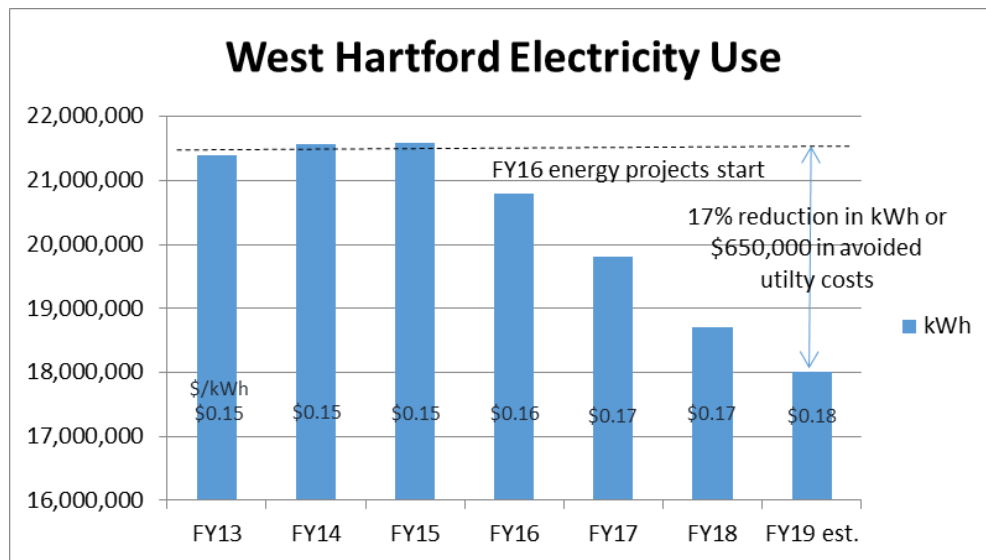
- a. Deborah Roe Podcast and website on environmental issues – discussion of this blog and the potential for the Commission to help with interviews and topics. The first podcast was on food recycling. Here is the website: <https://planeteadme.com>

4. Upcoming Events

- a. 2/26 6 PM - Sierra Club / Catherine Diviney speaking at St. James – West Hartford's Path to Clean Energy
- b. 2/26 7:30 PM – Sedgwick students Plastic Bag Ban presentation to Town Council

5. Business

- a. "TED" talk – Max DuBuisson – Carbon Markets – What are they and why do they matter?
 - Max discussed his work with the Climate Action Reserve. He and his company serve to verify and register carbon offset projects in a rigorous and verifiable manner. They serve the California cap and trade program and also (separately) will register programs through the voluntary market. His slide presentation is attached.
 - At the March 11 meeting James Capella will introduce the Commission to Socially Responsible Investment.
- b. Information on Town's energy progress – slide for Electricity
 - The commission discussed the progress the town has made in reducing electricity consumption (which is its biggest energy expense). The graphic below shows the 17% reduction since the energy projects started in 2016.



- a. **Sustainable CT update (report of January meeting)** – Plaque will be installed in Council Chambers soon. WH will keep the same internal staff Sustainable CT Committee (mostly department directors) for 2019 but will seek broaden representation to other boards /commissions and the public. It will also promote the program with more with updates to Town Council. Plan is still to go for Silver certification. Catherine had shared the CEC priorities to group. The CEC priorities are:
- Energy planning (Municipal and Community),
 - Reduction/recycling of food waste in the community and in WEHA schools,
 - SMART (Pay as You Throw) campaign,
 - The town auto and truck fleet.
- b. **Recap of POCD meetings and how CEC intersects with POCD**
- The POCD is proceeding quickly.
 - Dave Mello, Lara Siopos, and Bernie Pelletier attended some of the meetings which were excellent.
 - It is a priority of the WH CEC to get the POCD to include reference to saving energy, procuring clean energy, and including the energy plan (Municipal and Community) by reference in the document.
 - The presentations may be found here:
 - i. https://www.westhartfordct.gov/documents/PlanningZoning/POCD/EnvironmentSustainability_POCD_Thematic_Mtg_1-30-19.pdf
 - ii. https://www.westhartfordct.gov/documents/PlanningZoning/POCD/EconomicDevelopment-POCD_ThematicMeeting_1-31-19.pdf
 - iii. https://www.westhartfordct.gov/documents/PlanningZoning/POCD/W.H._Retail_Analysis_EconDev_POCD_ThematicMeeting_1-31-19.pdf
 - iv. https://www.westhartfordct.gov/documents/PlanningZoning/POCD/Housing_CulturalResources_Final.pdf
 - v. https://www.westhartfordct.gov/documents/PlanningZoning/POCD/TransportationandInfrastructure_Final.pdf
- c. **Policy regarding WH-CEC working with businesses and vendors** – Catherine has gotten town staff to agree we need some set disclaimer, rules, and policies of how to work with businesses, so we don't keep running into the same road block and getting frustrated on every campaign. Meeting forthcoming. For now – Doug's letter will go out with slight changes (Catherine working on).

d. Sister city proclamation and plans

- The proclamation announcing the creation of the task force was shared. The sister city task force (reporting to the CEC) is:
 - i. Johannes Evelein
 - ii. Henry Link
 - iii. Jill Morawski
 - iv. Scott Franklin
 - v. Ted Newton
 - vi. Bernie Pelletier
 - vii. Katherine Bruns

e. 2018 Special Topic Reports → 2019

- Business Outreach
 - i. Chamber of Commerce Letter & Education Seminar – **Joe Campanella, James Capella** - letter still being revised
 - ii. CPACE/Green Bank letter – **Catherine Diviney, Bernie Pelletier** - done!!
 - Solar Campaign – **Dan Tavelli, Aaron Hills, Bernie Pelletier**
 - i. PR blurb (draft)
 - ii. Posigen / Solar for All – thru Apr 30, 2019
 - iii. Solview project and status – this is suspended pending resolution of town policy on engaging with outside parties.
 - Recycling / Food Waste – **Chris Nelson, Katherine Bruns, Erin McFarland** – no update
 - Community TV Spots – **Dave Mello, Joe Campanella, Matt Macunas, Bernie Pelletier** - Dave Mello has been in touch and found that all the videos are on youtube. We will work to find suitable existing – and to create new content – to post there.
 - Plastic Bag Ban /Schools Trex Plastic Challenge - 2/26 at 7:30 students present ban to Town Council
- f. 100PercentCT Project & Energy Plan – working on a presentation on April 23 at 6PM (St. James church)

6. AOB

7. Adjournment - 8:35PM

Next meeting March 11th, 2019 Town Hall Room 422