



This meeting of the Clean Energy Commission will be conducted as a virtual meeting. Members of the public may view the meeting on West Hartford Community Interactive: Comcast Channel 5, Frontier TV Channel 6098, YouTube and www.whctv.org. Members of the public may also provide comments on agenda items by calling at the scheduled date and time and using the following access code:

February 24, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. Call 1 (408) 418-9388 Access Code: 129 648 1622
Password: 4m8zGPnXv4T

Minutes of Feb 24, 2021 WHCEC Meeting

1. Meeting Opening

a. Call to order – Opened at 7:02 PM

b. Roll Call

- Quorum met: Commissioners present- Catherine Diviney, Bernie Pelletier, Chris Nelson, James Capella, David Mello, Joe Campanella, Max DuBuisson
- Community attendees Stephen Sack, Jen Evans, Hendree Milward, Nicolas Matone

c. Approval of Minutes – January 27, 2021

2. Old Business

a. Energy Plan Draft, <https://www.westhartfordct.gov/resident-services/clean-energy/comprehensive-energy-plan>

- Revisions prior to submission to Town Council discussed and plan submitted to Town Council via Ben Wenograd as a draft
- Article about the plan will come out in West Hartford Life. WH Life interviewed Catherine & Bernie and will show some slides from the plan
- Discussion of Texas outage – Near term action number 13 encourages town to consider adaptation and resiliency planning
- Letter from Shawn Daley (conservation and environment commission) Chair will draft an answer that thanking him for feedback. Opportunity for public comment before it goes to Town Council.

b. Public Art & EV Chargers

- Public Charging stations in Bloomfield, West Hartford, Simsbury – Encouraging the idea of art on EV spots making them easy to recognize. Combine arts and clean energy. Bloomfield will run point.

- c. US Conference of Mayors Climate Protection Award – Still in process, award and check hasn't come yet. Award recipient is BiCiCo.
- d. Climate Emergency –draft of resolution (attached) –Commission reviewed the draft. Catherine recommended Youth membership. Discussion as to whether they will be voting members. Catherine to review how the Board of Ed youth representatives function.
- e. Commission reports (standing agenda item):
 - Community communication network: Joe Campanella/ Chris Nelson/Mike Matthews
 - Work to increase Sustainable West Hartford Facebook group.
 - Will work on generating press releases and sharing news:
 - 100% renewable, purchased recs
 - Mayor recognized with an award, article in WH Life.
 - Look for/ make videos to post on YouTube channel (Jen Evans can help)
 - Hire an intern?
 - Joe Campanella will coordinate with Renee' McCue
 - Connection with Sustainable West Hartford Facebook page: Joe, Chris, Mike Matthews
 - Town Clean Energy Webpage: Catherine, Max Dubuisson, Mike Matthews – needs to be reviewed
 - Youth representation: Catherine – Ask principals of Conard & Hall for youth representation for this session (not a freshman). Catherine will check with town legal.
 - Heat Pump and efficiency education campaign: Bernie, Joe – Discussion with Gina Varano in legal indicates that with proper language and review the commission can work with contractors and installers on outreach and education.
 - Energy outreach to LMI: Bernie, Max – brainstorm, not ready for discussion
 - Outreach for Sierra Club RF100: Joe, Chris, Mike Matthews, Samantha Dynowski
 - EV car event: James Capella – Not ready yet from James, Catherine sent information about an event from Bloomfield for tomorrow @1:00pm.
 - Public transit champions: Catherine
 - Community engagement with Sustainable CT: Catherine
 - Explore Sustainability plan (broader than Energy Plan): Bernie, Catherine, Bruns, S. Sack- Sustainability Task Force approved
- f. Creation of a Sustainability Task Force –
 - Sustainability task force approved – first task is Sustainable CT August filing, next task examine the approach to sustainability planning

3. New Business

- a. West Hartford 100% Renewable Power – purchase of RECs allows WH to claim credit for 100% renewable electricity

- b. Utility Community Engagement Plan by Eversource may allow some seed money for task force outreach efforts.
 - c. BEV grant proposal Town Fleet – Catherine, grant purchase of 2 Chevy Bolts and an EV station at Town Hall. Our fleet manager is supportive. We purchased 2 police cruisers recently.
4. Staff Report:
- a. Tackling old lights and fixtures, around Park Road.
 - b. Energy use in town and Board of Ed has increased slightly lately.
 - c. Natural gas use has been same if not little higher.
 - d. Electric is down and we are under budget.
5. Public Comment – Joined by Nicolas Matone, electrical engineer. New to WH and wants to listen in occasionally. Member of Sustainable WH.
6. Adjournment – Ended @8:34pm

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