

**ENERGY COMMISSION**

COMSTOCK COMM. CTR.  
180 School Road  
Wilton, CT 06897

203-563-0100



**WILTON ENERGY COMMISSION**  
**Meeting, Wednesday November 14, 2018**  
**Comstock Community Center**  
**7:00 pm**  
**Minutes**

Debra Thompson-Van  
**Chairperson**  
Peter Wrampe  
**Vice Chair**  
Kevin Gardiner  
**Secretary**  
AnnaMarie Bilella  
Patrice Gillespie  
Glenn Hemmerle  
Jim Jarvie  
Eileen Griffin

BY:

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TOWN OF WILTON

**Attending WEC Members:** Debra Thompson-Van, Peter Wrampe, Kevin Gardiner, Patrice Gillespie, Eileen Griffin, Jim Jarvie

**Absent WEC Members:** AnnaMarie Bilella, Glenn Hemmerle

**Other Attendees:** Deb McFadden

1. Debra Thompson-Van called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.
2. **Approval of minutes** of October 17, 2018 regular meeting. First, Kevin Gardiner; Second, Eileen Griffin; minutes approved unanimously, with no abstentions.
3. **Solar Installation Update**

We were informed on November 14, by Chris Burney that the Canadian contractor, OYA, chosen by the the Greenbank to replace Kingspan has quit the solar installation projects for Wilton High School.

The Greenbank is proposing another contractor but we do not yet know the changes that will be necessary in the financing, and there is presently no contractor that has been approved by Greenbank and the BOS.

At this point, all solar projects are on hold. The ZRecs still have 14 years of value (they are losing value in production), but we need a new game plan.

Lynne Vanderslice has the Town Council engaged to salvage the project. We have 2 schools complete, 2 schools and Comstock to be completed, and need a plan B to get the second projects back on track.

**Motion:**

Peter made a motion to get clarification from the Board of Selectman about the Town's expectations of the Wilton Energy Commission when a new plan is decided upon. Second by Eileen Griffin. The WEC needs the BOS to provide guidance on whether the town of Wilton would like the WEC to help identify self-financing installers, to define roles, and to explain expectations. All were in favor with Debra abstaining. The motion was carried unanimously.

#### **4. Update and Next Steps on Sustainable CT**

- i. Debra met with the Historical Society. They believe they will play a role in Sustainable CT, and they may want to have an ambassador involved in the process.
- ii. Eileen spoke with Katy Bensteff. At S.T.A.R. They would like to participate as events volunteers. They do not want to be burdened with paper work, but would like to participate where they can. They would participate in the equitable communities section (section 9), which needs to be matched up with initiatives in sections 1-8.
- iii. Kevin registered for the "Getting Sustainable CT Certified" webinar on November 30, 2018, to learn about the dates, submission process, and to help develop our plan for getting certified in 2019. Will provide a summary and link to a recording of the webinar at the next meeting.
- iv. Jim Jarvie recommended topics that could be used to help promote the Wilton Energy Commission with a Press Release or Facebook Posts, including, but not limited to, the following topics:
  - Sustainable CT
  - Solar at Schools
  - Solar Carports
  - C-PACE Program
  - Role in POCD Update
  - ZRECs (each time they are captured)
  - Passive House Tour
- v. Debra is putting together the list of potential ambassadors from other Wilton Commissions.

#### **Motion:**

Peter made a motion to vote on whether WEC should form a sub-committee that focuses on Sustainable CT Certification. Second by Jim Jarvie. Three (3) votes in favor (Jim, Peter, Patrice), with two (2) nays (Kevin, Eileen) and 1 abstention (Debra) to form a Sub-committee. The motion was passed by a 3:2 majority.

#### **5. POCD Meeting Update**

The meeting was an active and engaged discussion across groups. The POCD group posed a question to Debra around whether "sustainability" should be separate or a part of "energy"? Debra recommended that Sustainability should be part of each commission's activities throughout the document vs. a separate section of the POCD. The next meeting date has not yet been established.

#### **6. WEC Membership**

Debra Thompson-Van, Jim Jarvie, and Peter Wrampe are up for re-confirmation, on November 30, 2018.

Debra informed Lynn Vanderslice that she will not seek to renew her WEC membership when it expires November 30, but is willing to remain Chairperson for up to a few months while a new Chairperson is voted upon.

Jim Jarvie will not seek another term.

Patrice Gillespie will be retired out in April, 2019.

**Motion:**

Peter made a motion to vote on a replacement Chairperson in the December WEC Meeting. Second by Jim Jarvie. Three (3) votes in favor (Jim, Peter, Eileen), with two (2) nays (Kevin, Patrice) and 1 abstention (Debra). The motion was passed by a 3:2 majority.

**7. Members comment**

***Patrice:*** Calendar invite sent for Passive House Tour on November 17, 2018, at 12:40pm. Patrice, Peter, Kevin, and Deb McFadden plan to attend.

**8. Public comment**

***Deb McFadden*** – Thank you to Debra for her hard and great work as a WEC Chairperson, and thank you to the full commission for being a driving force behind energy commission.

**9. Adjournment: 8:54 PM**