

St. Johnsbury Town Energy Committee

June 6, 2022

Members Present: Elmore Dickstein, Steve Isham, Pam Parker (Chair), Lynn Wurzburg, David Zajko, Ben Deede

Guests: Robert Michael, Melissa Bridges

1. Introduction

The Committee and Guests introduced themselves.

2. Minutes

The minutes from the May meeting were reviewed and accepted.

3. Recycling Plastic in Area

St. Johnsbury resident Melissa Bridges spoke to the committee about her concern that there is not an option to recycle film plastic. She takes her film plastic to the Littleton transfer station. Littleton is part of the Northeast Region Recycling Association, but has a separate contract for recycling film plastic.

Price Choppers will accept film plastic, but we are not sure if they will take larger film plastic such as wood pellet bags. Lynn has tried to find out where Price Choppers recycles the film plastic they collect. According to recycle.trex.com, they take all Vermont Price Chopper stores' film plastic.

The conversation was a start to having a recycling option for film plastic in St. Johnsbury. Sean Bean of the Littleton Transfer Station is a good resource for the committee. We hope to have him attend our next meeting. In the meantime, Melissa will forward our questions to him and will share with us his contact information.

5. Report on Bike Month Events

Ben reported that Bike Month events were a success. They were well attended and garnered a lot of interest in e-bikes. Other committee members shared their impressions of the events they attended and agreed with Ben that the events were a success.

Pam reported that Gillian Sewake plans to have the St. Johnsbury Chamber do more promotion of next year's Bike Month.

6. VPR Film on the Climate Change Impact

The committee watched a five-minute film from VPR on how climate change is impacting Vermont now and over the next 30 years.. The committee discussed the film with the committee's two Academy student members, Elmore and David.

7. Composters/Soil Savers

No new information about the logistics of selling composters for the town was available.

8. Summer Fairs and Markets

The committee decided not host an information table at summer events.

9. Social Gathering in July

It was proposed by several committee members that we have a social gathering in July instead of a business meeting. Pam offered to host it at her house and will send out an e-mail with possible dates so the committee can select a date for the gathering.

10. Other Business

- Lynn reported the St. Johnsbury School will be making mandalas out of flowers and plants on the sidewalk in front of the school on Friday June 10. They will also write chalk messages to go with their mandalas. The eight grade graduation is that night.
- The committee will publicize and ask for the volunteers for the Window Dressers events, but will not host a building project ourselves.
- Pam has talked with Kevin Gregorie about a tour of energy efficient homes. Robert Michael and Maia Lynd have agreed to include their new home in the tour.