

Addison County Regional Planning Commission

14 Seminary Street Middlebury, VT 05753 • www.acrpc.org • Phone: 802.388.3141

ENERGY COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, November 20, 2023

ATTENDEES

Cheryl Brinkman - Committee Chair
James Dayton - Committee Member
Jeremy Grip - Committee Member
Rich Warren - Committee Member

Jim Walsh - Committee Member
Peter Grant - Committee Member
Maddison Shropshire - ACRPC Staff
Richard Faesy - Starksboro
Linda Larrabee - Shoreham

MINUTES

5:03 pm - Call to Order

Review of October Minutes

- Richard moved to approve the [October 2023 Minutes](#); Peter seconded; Jim W. abstained all in favor.

Discussion of regional energy plan updates

- Presentation on the [generation scenarios tool](#). Maddi presented the generation scenarios tool which was designed by the Public Service Department to allow the region to set a new generation target for the region and allocate responsibility for reaching that target to the member municipalities.
- Presentation of potential [LEAP disaggregation results](#). Maddi presented the simplest option for LEAP disaggregation with the use of an average of population and land area as the factor by which towns are assigned responsibility for Regional energy target as provided by the state.
 - The committee agreed that this disaggregation process may be adapted to consider housing rather than population as a first step.
 - Jeremy, Rich and Don agreed to review the spreadsheet tools provided and make recommendations on a few potential disaggregation strategies.

Discussion of regional energy events

- January energy committee gathering.

Addison	Bridport	Bristol	Cornwall	Ferrisburgh	Goshen	Leicester
Lincoln	Middlebury	Monkton	New Haven	Orwell	Panton	Ripton
Salisbury	Shoreham	Starksboro	Vergennes	Waltham	Weybridge	Whiting



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- The committee agreed that the event will be held on a Saturday in January in Bristol. Maddi will work with Richard to reserve a space and develop outreach materials for review at the December committee meeting.
- Potential for larger networking events with state programs for March. CEAC has suggested that the January energy committee gathering would be more valuable if the state programs and partners were invited to the discussion.
 - The committee agreed that while a larger networking event in the region is of interest, it prefers to leave the coordination of such an event to CEAC so time can be spent focused on the January event and the energy fair later this year.
- Energy fair updates
 - It was recommended that the event avoid the Bristol Harvest Festival and that the committee checks with the Chamber of Commerce calendar before identifying a date for the 2024 event.

Brief update on CPRG, MERP, and other upcoming energy funding opportunities.

- The upcoming Climate Pollution Reduction Grant, which will fund ACRPC to inventory all town plans, energy plans, MTAP projects, MERP projects, etc. for the purposes of developing a comprehensive list of needs in the region around climate resilience. The scope of work will also include surveying town leadership for needs that are not listed in a planning document, as well as energy planning for select towns. ACRPC expects a contract for this work on or after December 1st.
- Update on MERP timeline:
 - Remaining towns are assigned assessment vendor Dec 2023- Jan 2024
 - Assessments are completed by end of May
 - Assessment reports are anticipated 6 weeks following the assessment. Towns will have one opportunity to provide feedback on the report or request changes.
 - Final assessment reports should be submitted by mid July
 - Implementation grant applications will open January and close in the Fall of 2024
 - Applications will not require a contractor quote for the scope of work. Towns are only expected to use the information in the assessment report and provide narrative on the importance of the building for this application.
 - Implementation grant decisions will begin in the fall.
 - Grant agreements will go out in November/ December of 2024.

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- All agreements MUST be signed and funds transferred to towns by the end of 2024 to adhere to ARPA rules.

6:00 pm - Adjourn

Note: agendas and adopted meeting minutes for this and all other meetings are also available online at the ACRPC website: <https://acrpc.org/minutes-agendas/>

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