



ESSEX ENERGY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Wednesday, May 14, 2025 @7:00pm, 81 Main Street, Essex Junction

ADMINISTRATIVE

In attendance: Will Dodge, chair, Dottie Bergendahl, Geetha Ganesan, Katie Shattuck, Shawn McNamara, Essex Town staff representative, Natalee Braun, Ann Janda, CCRPC, Katherine Sonnick, Essex Town staff

- A. Draft Minutes from 04/09/2025: One spelling correction - minutes adopted
- B. Remaining Vacancies: **Action Item:** Shawn will make certain the vacancy is posted accurately in all applicable places

SUBSTANTIVE

- 1. Enhanced Energy Plan Discussion Resumption with Ann Janda and Katherine Sonnick: **Action Items:** (1) Contact Vermont Department of Historic Preservation to better understand the limitations on solar panel placement in the town and city.
(2) Complete deletions and corrections in the plan as discussed by the committee members, including adding or deleting selected actions in the plan.
(3) Committee members will continue to edit the plan, including identifying priorities, for submission to the Planning Commission with the target of meeting with the Planning Commission in September 2025. Make certain to align with the Just Transition principles, address the need for a Heat Action Plan and confirm that no items on the official content checklist are eliminated.
NOTE: Link to plan via [GoogleDocs](#) plus see separate attachment.
- 2. Champlain Valley Fair – Next Steps / Volunteers: **Action Items:** Dottie will contact Sean Quinn, Natalee will collaborate with Katie to begin the volunteer recruiting process and Shawn will determine where the booth rental financing will come from.
- 3. Quick Updates: **Action Item:** Will will send updates on the items below via email
 - a. Upper Main Street Complex Review (see [here](#) for webpage)
 - b. Additional Updates for Energy Committee Revised Charter
 - c. VT Climate Action Plan Public Fora (link [here](#))
 - d. Unsworth Parcel Opportunity / RFP / Colchester Net Metering Offset Opportunity
- 4. Other Business