

Barnet PZB Energy Plan Committee  
Minutes: Thursday, January 17, 2019  
Mark Bowen, Dakota Butterfield (notetaker)  
(absent: Karen Stark)

We met to prepare for our informational meeting with Alison Lowe scheduled for Thursday, January 24th at 3:30.

Looked over “Municipal Enhanced Energy Planning in Vermont” for guidance, and the “Model Communities Program” information that Alison had sent us.

(<https://www.vtrural.org/model-communities>) Also reviewed the handout that Dakota had put together, pulling out the existing language in the Barnet Town Plan that explicitly addresses energy goals, from the Energy and Communications section.

In addition to understanding explicit existing energy goals in the current town plan, “Municipal Enhanced Energy Planning in Vermont” recommends reviewing the plan to see *what land use and transportation elements* are included that might connect to the requirements of enhanced energy planning. We agreed this is a piece of work we should do.

Clarified that the plan we will be producing will have three sequential steps articulated across three different sectors:

Analysis	Electricity Use
Targets	Thermal (Heat)
Pathways	Transportation

In addition, there will be a mapping section that details preferred locations for large energy generation projects, as well as what we deem to be unsuitable areas (only possible “if land use policies applicable to other forms of development are similarly prohibitive.”)

Clarified that if we use existing data available through our RPC (regional planning commission) about our energy use, and if we use existing maps generated by them as well, those two sections of the plan will be accepted by the board that reviews the plan without question.

Questions for our meeting with Alison:

- 1) What are the advantages/disadvantages of doing a stand-alone plan, vs one that is incorporated into our existing Town Plan?
- 2) What are the steps you see us needing to complete in this process, and what do you think would be a reasonable project schedule to accomplish them?
- 3) What data might we use? What is the current RPC analysis data for electricity use, thermal generation, and transportation use, for Barnet? How does the RPC data

compare to data generated by the state's Energy Dashboard? What are the downsides for us in choosing to use the RPC data? What do you recommend?

- 4) Can we review the RPC maps that detail energy "resources" in Barnet, and natural resource constraints?
- 5) Are there any towns in the Northeast Kingdom with EEPs (enhanced energy plans), or any towns elsewhere in the state with approved EEPs that have a population and economic profile similar to Barnet's?

Preparation for our meeting with Alison:

- 1) Look at pp 7-9 in the "Municipal Enhanced Energy Planning in Vermont" handout. Note which, if any, actions in other town plans are worth considering for Barnet.  
[https://publicservice.vermont.gov/sites/dps/files/documents/Pubs\\_Plans\\_Reports/Act\\_174/Municipal%20Enhanced%20Energy%20Planning%20in%20Vermont%20-%20Best%20Practices%20and%20Resources.pdf](https://publicservice.vermont.gov/sites/dps/files/documents/Pubs_Plans_Reports/Act_174/Municipal%20Enhanced%20Energy%20Planning%20in%20Vermont%20-%20Best%20Practices%20and%20Resources.pdf)
- 2) Look at the Table of Contents in "Guidance for Municipal Enhanced Energy Plan Standards" Note which, if any, actions in other town plans are worth considering for Barnet.  
[https://publicservice.vermont.gov/sites/dps/files/documents/Pubs\\_Plans\\_Reports/Act\\_174/Municipal%20Guidance\\_Final.pdf](https://publicservice.vermont.gov/sites/dps/files/documents/Pubs_Plans_Reports/Act_174/Municipal%20Guidance_Final.pdf)