

SEC Steering Committee Meeting

Tuesday 19 November 2024

6:00 PM – 7:30 PM

Location: Colatina Exit, Bradford, VT

Minutes

1. October minutes approved
2. General Updates/Old Business

- a. [MERP awards announced](#)

- i. Bradford got \$437,718; outline process going forward
- ii. Harry transitioning off MERP contract to meet FY25 SEC hours
- iii. Ways to move forward in towns that were not awarded

- b. [New VT Bond Bank loan program](#)

This loan is an option for towns that didn't get MERP. 10-year maximum term, around 2% interest. The bond bank is trying to get it extended to 20 years. The bond requires voter approval. VT Bond bank wants to get legislative approval for things that demonstrate they will pay for themselves, so they don't have to be voted on. It requires the type of audit they we just received through MERP. They have 40 million and are looking to move 8 million out the door.

- c. [EVSE \(AKA ChargeVermont\)](#) program updates

- i. Still awaiting grant agreements for DCFC sites

DC Fast charging sites were funded in August. We are still waiting for the grant agreements for those. Grant agreements are with GMP's legal department.

- ii. Three level-2 sites in pipeline; struggling to get quotes from electricians

Harry and Erica met with NorwichEV. There are three towns in the pipeline for level 2 charging; Harry and Erica asked why the quote was so high for Thetford Elementary School. The cost of civil engineering for that site would drive the cost up. They need stamped drawings so its site related.

William B. Emmons, III, Chair ~ Peter G. Gregory, AICP, Executive Director
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d. [2025 Dept. of Libraries Grants](#)

Harry reached out to Bradford, Strafford, and Sharon. Strafford is aware already. Harry will revisit Norwich library. There is scant info on the grant right now. It's for economically disadvantaged areas.

e. Electric school bus grants: [federal](#) and [state](#)

Harry is reaching out to STA and Riverbend. Riverbend's need is for a short bus and that doesn't fit into the criteria. Harry will check back in on this- Nancy thinks they use regular buses now. STA never answered. State grant is due in 10 days.

f. Linda: Possible UV EV fair in 2025

The person who organized the one in Lebanon emailed Linda; they're targeting September. They are offering for this to happen in a VT location. Is there anyone who wants to take the lead? Dana Clawson is going to raise the question at their meeting, Norwich will raise it at their meeting. It could be a great opportunity to connect vendors with interested people. There is general support and interest, we'd like to help. We'd help publicize.

3. New Business/Discussion Items

i. RBES Holiday party event planning

Holiday themed event about the RBES -main audience will be builders and town officials, though open to everyone. Thursday December 5th 4-6 PM at the Bugbee Senior Center.

SEC: RBES group will make flyer and copy for listservs.

SBs, town manager, DRBs, planning commissions. Harry will invite these people, in addition to other SEC towns.

Dana Clawson, HERS rater, will present. Matt Christie will give overview of RBES. Very brief presentations. Move into questions and gingerbread. Building science and beers group in Leb -- promote to them, Matt is involved. Erica will promote to American institute of Architects.

Minutes submitted by Jenevra Wetmore.