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# Town of Shaftsbury

Municipal Offices at Cole Hall

## Meeting Minutes

PO Box 409  
61 Buck Hill Road  
Shaftsbury, VT  
05262-0409  
(802) 442-4038

### Energy Committee

Date: Tuesday, August 5, 2025

Time: 6:09 PM

Location: Cole Hall and via Zoom

Presiding: Ms. Andrea Bacchi

Members Present: Bill Christian, Wayn Goodman

#### 1. Call to Order

- Ms. Bacchi called the meeting to order at 6:09 PM.

#### 2. Conflict of Interest

- No conflicts of interest were declared.

#### 3. Approval of Minutes

- No meeting was held in July 2025 so no minutes were in need of approving.

#### 4. Public Comments

- No public comments were made and no public was in attendance.

#### 5. Meeting Schedule

- Committee agreed to continue meeting the first Tuesday of each month at 6:00 PM at Cole Hall (or the new town offices when available).
- All members confirmed 6:00 PM works well.

#### 6. Committee Member Recruitment

- Ms. Bacchi contacted Bill from the Bennington Energy Committee, who may connect us with two potential members from the Arlington Energy Committee.

- Ms. Bacchi will follow up at the next Bennington meeting.

## 7. Guest Presentations – Past and Proposed

- Past: Melanie Pascovich (Heat Squad / Cornerstone).
- Proposed:
  - Peter Sterling (Renewable Energy Vermont)
  - Alex Mintz (Power Guru) – Wayn to contact
  - Integrated Solar Solutions – Wayn to contact
  - Bill Christian to present on solar thermal systems
  - Byron Garcia (Natural Designs LLC – biomimicry and sustainability)

## 8. Presentation Logistics

- Presentations can be in-person or via Zoom.
- Topics include solar updates, heat pumps, rebates, hybrid hot water heaters, and sustainable technologies.

## 9. Pellet Delivery Resources

- Curtis Lumber was noted as a reliable option.

## 10. Recycling and Local Programs

- Staples accepts batteries, small appliances, and electronics.
- Bennington Transfer Station also accepts small-scale batteries.

## 11. Trex Bag Collection Update

- Shaftsbury Elementary School is continuing Trex bag collection.
- If the program ends, the Energy Committee may explore alternative collection options at the Shaftsbury Transfer Station.

## 12. Email Newsletter

- The Committee's email communications will resume.
- Ms. Bacchi will curate and distribute future updates and resources.

## 13. Solar Project Updates

- The Shaftsbury Solar Project appears to be moving forward but no formal update was shared.

#### 14. Wind Turbine Discussion

- Wayn shared insights about Star Wind Turbines in Dorset.
- Potential educational outreach was discussed

#### 15. Emerging Topics and Ideas

- Broader concepts included:
  - Biomimicry and sustainable design
  - Solar thermal and geothermal systems
  - Water conservation and resource resilience
  - Environmental impact of AI and data centers
- Ms. Bacchi highlighted her work with Byron Garcia of Natural Designs LLC and his innovative approaches to nature-based sustainability.

#### 16. Action Items

- Wayne Goodman to contact Alex Mintz (Power Guru)
- Wayne Goodman to contact Integrated Solar Solutions
- Ms. Bacchi to follow up with Bill (Bennington Energy Committee) about potential recruits
- Ms. Bacchi to resume the Committee's email communications
- Ms. Bacchi and Bill Christian to coordinate a future solar thermal presentation
- Ms. Bacchi to clarify Trex program logistics with Shaftsbury School
- Bill Christian to share the 600-page PDF on energy history and sustainability

#### 17. Next Meeting

- Scheduled for Tuesday, September 2, 2025 at 6:00 PM at Cole Hall

#### 18. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn made by Ms. Bacchi and seconded by Bill Christian

- Motion passed unanimously
- Meeting adjourned at 7:11 PM

19. Minutes Submitted By

- Ms. Andrea Bacchi
- Date: August 7, 2025