

Wilmington Energy Committee (WEC) Minutes

Time and Location: July 15, 2025, at 40 Beaver Street

Members in attendance and constituting a quorum were: Keith Johnson, Bob Bois, Jessica Roberts, Gary Carver, Marshall Dix and Scott Moore

Members Absent: none

Others Present: none

Proceedings:

- Meeting called to order at 3:04 PM by **Chairperson** Bois.
- June 17, 2025 minutes passed with a correction; motioned by Dix, second by Moore, and all approved.
- Moore provided a summary of the Solar Project proposal presented to Town Manager Scott Tucker by Bois and Moore. The proposal may be included in the FY2027 budget as a capital fund item and will likely require a town vote. Bois suggested a second option involving a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA), in which the town would lease space and purchase power at a discounted rate over a 20–25-year period. Roberts proposed a third option that would use the Local Option Tax (LOT) 1% funds as a potential funding source. The WEC will continue exploring all three options. Options 1 and 3 are eligible for incentive funding that could reduce the project cost from approximately \$500,000 to under \$200,000, while generating an estimated \$1 million in energy value over 25 years. Bois will research whether the incentive funding could also apply to Option 2.
- Johnson reported on the town's energy tracking program, which was initiated by a UVM intern and Roberts. He has gained access to Green Mountain Power (GMP) data and collected solar billing information for town accounts. Propane data is still being gathered. With these inputs, the use of the Portfolio Manager tool will make the tracking process more efficient going forward. Bois expressed his hope that the town will eventually assume responsibility for this task. Roberts questioned whether the town staff has the capacity to take it on and suggested that the WEC manage the program instead. Dix recommended piloting the tracking for a few cycles to determine the actual time commitment. Johnson emphasized that demonstrating the benefits of energy tracking could help secure support for future energy initiatives, which aligns closely with the WEC's goals.
- Roberts provided an update on the Window Dressers project, which has launched successfully and reached capacity for the current year. Measuring teams are actively conducting visits and are approximately halfway through. Carver will be staffing an informational table at the upcoming Blueberry Festival, and Bois offered to join her. The focus has now shifted from recruiting new window clients to informing residents about the program for next year and recruiting volunteers for the community build, scheduled for October 16–23.
- Carver reported on the 2023 Energy Burden Report and confirmed that the report is released every three years. He offered to research the "Solar for All" initiative mentioned earlier by Roberts, to evaluate whether it could be utilized locally or promoted to residents for educational purposes.
- Bois led a conversation acknowledging Roberts' upcoming resignation, effective September 1st. He thanked her for her work on the MERP grants, her role in founding the WEC, and for inviting him to lead the committee. The group reflected on the value of MERP and other grants, noting that the latter served as the catalyst for forming the WEC and launching its current efforts. Pros and cons of grants were discussed.
- Roberts made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Dix and approved unanimously.

Minutes submitted by Secretary,
Jessica Roberts