

Katelin Emerson
October 3, 2013
Hinesburg Energy Committee Application

- 1) Review the Mission Statement of the Commission, Board, or Committee you are applying to serve on and explain how you will aid the group achieve said Mission.

I will help the Energy Committee achieve their mission because of my passion for energy conservation and efficiency and my experience. I believe it is infinitely better to reduce our energy consumption before looking for new sources of energy. I have lots of experience researching energy technologies and governmental and non-governmental programs to help people change their energy habits. I spent a lot of time at Green Mountain College on energy related projects including an energy dashboard, energy audits and weatherization. I am also familiar with renewable energy technology like solar pv, solar thermal, wind turbines, geothermal, biomass/biogas and hydropower.

- 2) Please share your thoughts about implementation of at least two of the Top Priority Goals and Recommendations in the latest Town Plan (Section 9, page 75), as it relates to the Commission, Board, or Commission on which you are applying to serve.

“To encourage affordable and reasonably priced housing, in part by pursuing opportunities to bring affordable housing units to Hinesburg, with consideration of impacts to public services. (2.2.1)”

A key part of affordable housing is affordable energy bills, especially in the winter. Any new or renovated housing needs to be as energy efficient as possible. Some homes can even be designed to produce as much or more energy than they consume and can sell it back to the grid through net metering.

“To guide transportation program maintenance and improvement to mitigate increasing traffic congestion (especially on the Route 116 corridor within the village) and bolster economic development, while also supporting efforts to promote ridesharing, public transportation use, and other alternative transportation options. (6.1g, 6.2a,6.3)”

Along with home heating and cooling, transportation is the largest source of energy related greenhouse gas emissions in Vermont. Ridesharing, public transportation and alternatives like biking or telecommuting greatly reduce the consumption of energy for transportation. Because Vermont is a rural state, the transportation sector represents a great opportunity.

- 3) Review the scheduled meeting day/time of the Commission, Board, or Committee along with the length of the term of the position. Will you be able to regularly make the meetings?: Y / N

Will you be able to serve for the term of the position? Y / N

I believe so, however I am currently looking for employment, which may move me away from Hinesburg. However if the meetings are monthly I could travel and having lived in Hinesburg my entire life I feel that I know the town and its needs well enough to continue working on it.