

1. Community Solar: **Vanessa** spoke with Kirt Mayland and Jenny Carter at Vermont Law School, and they will take a look at the “off-taker” contracts and provide a recommendation on whether they would still stand if the array was sold.

Vanessa also checked with Efficiency Vermont about Strafford, and they did some work at the town garage in 2012 (HVAC, but not weatherization at that time). They contacted our committee in 2024 and 2025 and didn’t hear back, so they were happy to hear from us.

Jim asked if **Vanessa**, when she follows up with Emily, who is their Municipal person, if Efficiency Vermont is able to work with churches, and if it’s a factor that the church building is mainly a Nursery now, every week day. **Jim** was told previously that churches aren’t eligible for at least some of Efficiency Vermont’s programs.

Matt reported on the Library, which has insufficient insulation in the attic, but we aren’t sure whether the Library is considered a municipal building, from the standpoint of Efficiency Vermont’s specific programs for town buildings. **ACTION ITEM: Dorian** will ask Lisa if the library is a town building.

Until we hear back from the Law School, there’s nothing to be done regarding the Maclay Array. If they say that the community partner agreements will not be affected by a sale. If they confirm that the “off-taker” agreements will stand, we don’t need to begin what could be a complicated process of trying to convince the town to purchase the array. On the other hand, several people especially interested in energy (including Matt Christie) have just been elected to the Strafford select board, so there might be more receptivity to the concept of town ownership.

2. Flood Forum: Kaz is reaching out to people in the lower village for a Resiliency gathering. Possibilities include the school library, Barrett Hall, the Historical Society (Masons) building, or Matt’s house.

Thirteen people came to **Vanessa** and **Scot**’s place on February 28, which was fewer than those who’d RSVP’d to come, but at the last minute people couldn’t come but expressed interest in seeing the notes. They did a lot of brainstorming about ways of keeping track of who has what equipment and skills, from generators to CPR. They discussed what kinds of preparations would be needed for different circumstances, and also ways of reaching others directly, in person. In the Alger Brook Road group, there seemed to be less concern about privacy than on Turnpike Road. The neighborhood has a Culvert Captain now.

Dorian heard a discussion by people in England who were talking about “emergency kits,” and recommending that people use camping gear like the water bottles that have filters built in.

Kaz has been pressure-canning water in quart jars, which will be safe forever, and with glass there’s no plastic particles. They had frozen pipes this winter and she realized they had no provision for water.

3. Membership: Discussion of possible new members, since we’ve lost David Lutz and **Jim** will be moving from town. **ACTION ITEM: Jim** will ask Dan Gottlieb if he’s interested in the committee, and **Vanessa** will ask Ed Huang and Phil Dimond.

4. Education: We have discussed ways of telling household success stories on energy savings, with several sample households: through list-serve postings, open houses, etc. **Vanessa** recommended that we focus on the Resiliency gatherings for now, since they're community-building opportunities and there seems to be quite a lot of interest. It's possible at these to also talk about home-energy matters and choices.

5. Discussion of "Balcony Solar" legislation. Jim described their DeltaPro portable battery, and Dorian has another example of an easy-to-use portable battery with a small photovoltaic panel.

ACTION ITEM: On **April 25** at the **Recycling Center**, Jim will bring their DeltaPro borrow Dorian's other example to demonstrate how these work. **Vanessa** said we could regularly use the Recycling Center as a demonstration venue: to show electric mowers and other equipment, and to provide information. Jim will bring a handout about Vermont's "Balcony Solar" legislation.

6. The committee will have a Bon Voyage party for Jim on Sunday, March 15, at 4:30 at Dorian's house.

Meeting adjourned at 8:17 pm. Next meeting is April 14, 2026 at 7 pm on Zoom.