



**(Question came up: where does information on the dashboard come from? How accurate are the numbers, or are they self-reported?)**

**ITEM: David** will contact Paul Kifner about the possibility of doing a demonstration at one of the concerts on the common powering all the sound equipment with his Kia. **Carried over.**

**3. Discussion of Survey results** and the charts Dorian made. Electric lawn equipment has been widely adopted, much more so than vehicles or bikes. Heat pumps are becoming more familiar. Many responses couldn't be graphed because they were discursive. We ought to have asked a yes/no question about recycling. **ACTION ITEM: Dorian** will share the graphic for our results with Matt and ask about ways of posting this (Google link, town Facebook page, poster version for Recycling center); are there ways to tabulate more of the responses?

**4. Report of Independence Day** from Susan: Strafford's celebration seemed well attended. Strafford Climate Action had about 8 people in the parade, with signs, and a wonderful "Earth" Kitty Mackie made by painting the large blue ball she has for her horses! And we got lots of applause! The weather was an issue, and the organizers decided to postpone the parade till noon, and it was very hot and humid. Our location was on the north side of the green, not really where all the action was, and we did not have very many people come by.

I brought a canopy and 2 tables, one for 350VT. SCA's table was not very conducive to people stopping by (I take responsibility). The 350VT table just had an art activity for kids (but basically none stopped by). I had the SECC handouts on the SCA table, with a little SECC sign, and I mentioned them and pointed them out to several people, but no one took a single one.

My take-away thoughts:

- Maybe the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration is not the best event for all of us, but what else is there?
- Better planning and organizing ahead of time might help.
- Come up with a "face" for climate info that is somehow inviting to kids and their parents if we are going to do the 4<sup>th</sup>. (What I came up with for SCA didn't work very well.)
- Maybe advertise ahead of time for a prize (for something?)<sup>?</sup> or free brownies<sup>?</sup> Or ???
- Maybe we just need to do a better job of posting on the listserv AND on the Strafford FB page, and have those be our primary way of getting info out?

Discussion:

Maybe this event is best for what we're doing. Possibly at the Recycling Center we'd find that people would engage with our information more; the electric lawn equipment demonstration we did at Recycling was one of our best outreach efforts.

**5. Discussion of RECYCLING** as a venue for more educational efforts. Do recycled materials really get reused? Jim reiterated that some materials really are recycled: aluminum is costly in energy and money to make, so there's a real market for aluminum cans; evidently cardboard too is relatively cost-effective to recycle. Discussion of advantages of having a table there regularly, maybe quarterly. And we could post information about materials and recycling there. **ACTION ITEM: Dorian** will print a poster-size version of the TREX company's handout explaining what kind of plastics can be recycled: <https://nextrex.com/view/educate#materials1/>.

**6. Check-in on educational postings** on the Strafford list-serv:

July: Electricity **David** will do a posting recommending that people go to ISO New England (<https://www.iso-ne.com/>) to see the energy use region-wide at any given time. One horrifying piece

of information on the real-time energy mix is that during this meeting, 32% of the so-called renewables are coming from “refuse,” or trash incinerators! David described the ways Green Mountain Power is using home-based batteries to avoid buying peak-priced power from the grid; these are now available to any GMP ratepayer: \$5,500 to purchase or \$55 per month for ten years. **ACTION ITEM: David** will do a listserv posting about electricity, providing the ISO New England link and explain how the Green Mountain Power battery option works.

August: Household products & pets (\_\_\_\_ No one claimed this one.)

September: Fashion/fiber (Dorian)

October: Forests (Dorian and/or Susan T.)

November: Garbage & recycling “literacy,” including plastics (Jim)

December: Plastics, or redo holiday posting

#### **7. Sub-committee and other reports, monthly updates, if any:**

\* **Intramunicipal Energy (IREC):** David reported that the group hasn’t had a meeting for a while but will be meeting soon. Town garage for Strafford has been assessed for solar array and better insulation but the consultant hasn’t made a report yet.

\* **David** asked if we could have an in-person meeting sometime. The IREC group did so in the spring and it was really refreshing, after years of meeting virtually. **ACTION ITEM: Susan will ask Tim if this could be at their house.**

**Meeting adjourned at 8:12 pm. Next meeting is August 13, 2024 possibly in person? To be determined.**