

**MINUTES
ALTERNATIVE ENERGY COMMITTEE
MEETING OF MAY 19, 2010**

Committee members present: Ron DiPippo (Chair), Nathalie Dias, Arthur Larrivee, Roger Race and Saul Raposo.

Committee member excused: Kevern Joyce and Joseph Sousa.

Committee members absent: Paul Lopes and Raymond Medeiros.

Others: David Cressman, David Hickox and Deborah Melino-Wender.

Chairman DiPippo called the meeting to order at 7:02 P.M. on Wednesday, May 19, 2010.

1. Approval of Minutes.

After a motion was made and seconded, it was voted unanimously to accept and approve the Alternative Energy Meeting Minutes of April 28, 2010.

2. New business. Municipal Wind Turbine Bylaw

The proposed Municipal Wind Turbine bylaw (Section 35) to be presented to Town Meeting on June 1 was discussed. It was crafted by Attorney Anthony Savastano based on the right of towns to construct buildings on their own land without needed a Special Permit from the Special Permit Granting Authority which in the case of Dartmouth is the Select Board for wind turbines. The effect of the new bylaw would only ben on town projects on its own or leased land. Mr. Cressman suggested that the bylaw might be modified to eliminate “leased” lands. The consequence of the new law would be to place any new municipal wind turbine projects before Town Meeting for authority to proceed.

Maps were presented that showed there are very few places owned by the town that would be available for new projects when the setback, clear area and height restrictions imposed by both the new bylaw and the FAA are taken into account. The new bylaw would not open the floodgates to rampant wind turbine development by the town.

After a motion was made and seconded, it was voted unanimously to endorse the new bylaw; the vote included two votes in the affirmative by proxy of the excused members.

3. Old business: Future of the Alternative Energy Committee.

a. Nominations/Elections for Vice-Chairperson and Secretary.

No action was taken on this item since these will be taken up by the committee after July 1.

b. Process for selecting new members and terms of office.

It was proposed that the Select Board will re-establish the membership of the committee before July 1 according to the following schedule:

- Roger Race, Chairman: Term expires June 30, 2013
- Member 2: Term expires June 30, 2013
- Member 3: Term expires June 30, 2013

- Member 4: Term expires June 30, 2012
- Member 5: Term expires June 30, 2012
- Member 6: Term expires June 30, 2012

- Member 7: Term expires June 30, 2011
- Member 8: Term expires June 30, 2011
- Member 9: Term expires June 30, 2011

Two of the current members, N. Dias and R. DiPippo, will be retiring from the committee on June 30. The other members should notify Mr. Cressman and Select Board Chair W. Trimble regarding their intention to continue to serve on the committee, as soon as possible.

After a motion was made and seconded, it was voted unanimously to recommend that the Select Board follow this schedule.

c. Prioritization of new projects (see March 24, 2010 Minutes for unranked listing).

The committee reviewed the nine items on the following list and selected three (shown in **bold face**) for immediate action:

- 1 – Use of solar hot water heaters on public buildings.
- 2 – Use of solar photovoltaic cells (PV) on the high school gymnasium roof.**
- 3 – Partnering with the Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical High School to design, construct and install renewable energy systems for the Town.
- 4 – Doing more public outreach and education on the subject of renewables.
- 5 – Installing an electronic billboard outside Town Hall showing in real time the amount of money being saved by our renewable energy systems.
- 6 – Investigating the possibility of installing a Combined-Heat-Power system at the DPW Waste Water Treatment Plant.**
- 7 – Conducting energy audits on Town buildings that have not been recently audited.**
- 8 – Consider implementing renewable energy systems as part of the new HVAC renovations to be done at the Southworth Library.
- 9 – Consider using the wood chip production at the DPW Waste Water Treatment Plant for the generation of electricity on site.

In addition, it was suggested that the use of Light-Emitting Diodes (LEDs) be looked into for street lights of other lighting uses on town properties. The use of small wind turbines on relatively short poles was also mentioned. Mr. Raposo collected some information on the latter and will share it with the committee.

d. Creation of subcommittees for highest ranked projects.

No action was taken on this item since these will be taken up by the committee after July 1.

4. Public comments

There being no one from the community in attendance, there were no comments.

5. Next meeting

The next meeting will be on June 16, 2010, a Wednesday evening. An agenda will be circulated and posted in due course.

6. Adjournment

After a motion was made and seconded, it was voted to adjourn the Alternative Energy Committee meeting. With no further business to discuss, the Chairman declared the regular meeting adjourned at 8:12 P.M.

Attest:



Ronald DiPippo, Chairman