

Deerfield Energy Resources Committee

Minutes for June 24, 2011

Meeting called to order at 4:00 pm.

Present: Kristen Bakker, Amy Gazin-Schwartz, Jay Stryker, M.A. Swedlund

Minutes of 4/22, 5/27 and 6/8 are tabled till the next meeting.

Old business:

MA reported that the Select Board has requested that minutes be made more readable, follow a similar format with bullets, include information about votes and the rationales for those votes, and be signed by the minute taker.

Energy Saving tips of the month:

Kristen made three slides on ways to save energy / keep cool over the summer. She will send them to Kayce to be put on the TV.

Green Communities

MA reported that the Green Communities application was submitted on time, and the Energy Reduction Plan (ERP) was accepted. If/when Deerfield is designated a Green Community, we will have to submit a proposal for using the grant money.

The committee discussed priorities for using the grant money:

1. Replacing/insulating the roof of Deerfield Elementary School. This will provide the biggest savings of all the items in the ERP; the Town needs to hire an engineer to determine what type of insulation is needed, how the roof should be replaced, develop specs. The Energy Committee discussed the importance of starting this process by hiring an engineer over the summer, and recommends doing the entire roof and insulation in one job, rather than in sections, as the energy savings will come sooner.
2. Replacing street lights in town with midnight shut-off timers. These new bulbs cost approximately \$100 each. At the same time if the bulb has too high wattage, we will reduce it. Decisions about which lights to shut off at midnight will be made in consultation with the Police Department. Some of the cost will be paid for by the elimination of unnecessary lights and the rest we will include in the grant.
3. Finishing the improvements at the wastewater treatment plants. The town has given Don Chappell \$40,000 for improvements but he may need additional funds for all the heat pumps, etc.
- 4 Sealing air leaks and replacing lighting in the Senior Center, based on recommendations from Siemens.

5. Improve the efficiency of the parking lot lighting at Town Hall and the School.
6. Develop a community energy efficiency project for Deerfield residents. Kristen and Amy will investigate some examples and make suggestions on this at the next meeting.

Jay moved that we adopt this list of priorities for the Green Communities Grant; Amy seconded; approved 4-0-0.

Reduction Plan next steps:

The Committee discussed implementation of the Energy Reduction Plan outlined in the Green Communities application:

The Town will need to set up a process to monitor the progress of the ERP.

We discussed the importance of keeping conversations about Energy Reduction active, not letting items get lost. This monitoring will be an important agenda item for each meeting of the Energy Committee over the next years.

Letters of Commendation

Kristen moved that the Committee recognize the invaluable assistance of Bernie Kubiak and Stacey Metzger in preparing the Green Communities application. Amy seconded; approved unanimously.

New business

Summer projects: the Green Communities Grant application will be due in August.

Amy emailed Bernie about composting at the Transfer station, and MA talked with him about that. Plans are underway to redesign the whole Transfer Station, and Bernie would prefer to include plans for composting in that redesign process.

Next meeting: July 22, 2011

Meeting adjourned at 5:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Gazin-Schwartz