

Deerfield Energy Resources Committee

Minutes of 8/22/13

Present: M.A. Swedlund, Kristan Bakker, David Gilbert Keith, Jay Styker, Irene Winklebauer, Reenie Clancy

1) We agree to table review of previous minutes

2) 1212 campaign:

- a) Stickers on display at Town Hall. MA reports dump education went well. So far we've done it five times for ~2 hours. Recommends doing more in September.
- b) The sign: keep paying or take it down? We're paid through June. Costs ~\$65/new month sticker. Postpone decision.
- c) Irene suggests having a flyer (w/ her phone number) available at the library to explain the sign.
- d) We've spent ~\$5,000 and have ~\$1,500 left, less another Locust press to come (~\$50).
- e) Irene asks if any way to get data on audit referrals. MA says we will know at end of yr., but we only get the report once a year.
- f) Irene mentions PTO as a motivated group to receive presentations. Parents of young children a good audience. MA notes programs to get high school kids to present to elementary kids. Discussion of doing another PTO presentation, including letting them know about Frontier kids coming to DES. Also discuss grade-level projects, honor student implementation of a curriculum, presentations to fit grade levels, and spin-offs with other groups such as C-3.

3) Jay's Picks:

- a) **Viridian Energy Company** is a renewable energy choice available while staying in the WMECO system. Collective groups (churches, etc.) are opting in.
- b) Hands out **Amherst College temperature records** from 1830's on, also notes that disaster planners need now to begin thinking more about firestorms as precipitation decreases with temperature rise.

- 4) **Green Communities:** Variable speed drives went to school budget rather than GC grant. Town Offices windows looked at, but turns out to be a bigger project than thought. Need to use the grant money asap. Now considering:
 - a) a solar awning system. Better payback than the window rebuild.
 - b) **Solar at Wastewater Treatment Plant:** Has a clear place to put an array on posts. A straightforward build. (See next.)
- 5) **Landfill project:**
 - a) We hired Atty. Beth Greenblatt as consultant to review and negotiate with ACE. Beth recommended we go back out to bid and wait until new SREC rules are in place. (Wendy Foxmyn thinks that will happen next spring.).
 - b) In the mean time, go ahead and set up smaller project at WWTP. Remaining grant available is ~\$45,000.
 - c) MA recommends we wait and explore new approaches in regard to the larger project at the landfill. For instance, Greenfield may set up an energy generating and sale program we could tie into. It would be a third-party entity acting as a distributor of locally generated energy, so would not be bound by requirement to sell only to municipalities—individuals and private companies could potentially opt in.
 - d) Kristan floats idea of a small solar array for DES with a dashboard, while noting high cost of the dashboard itself. Mostly for that reason, committee leans toward WWTP this time around.
- 6) **MA moves: WWTP solar is our first priority and if Don agrees, we'll begin bidding process. Jay seconds. Unanimously accepted.**
- 7) **Plans for next year:**
 - a) Create brochures to accompany signs for library.
 - b) Reviving plan to work with honor students at Frontier to make presentations at DES. We will work with PTO in regards to that too.
 - c) Working with math, science teachers re: developing a unit on energy efficiency.
 - d) Talk to C-3 to see if they want to be involved.
 - e) Complete the Green Communities grant report due in Nov.

- f) Continue streetlight projects (midnight shutoffs: need to spend \$14,000 @ \$110/light and look again at more suggestions).
- 8) **WMECO & Berkshire energy use data:** Oil use data difficult because customers shop and move around too often for easy reporting. John Walsh of WMECO is their energy efficiency liaison for this region. He is showing more interest and wants to come to one of our meetings. Berkshire Gas is also providing us information. *How do we want to use that data?* To be discussed.
- 9) **Jay moves that we adjourn. David 2nds. Unanimously approved. Meeting adjourns 5:40PM.**

Minutes Respectfully Submitted,

David Gilbert Keith