

Town of Derry, NH
Energy and Environmental Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes - January 4, 2010

Attendees: Tom Minnon, Councilor Brent Carney, Mary Till, Mark Brassard, Chris Cox, Brian Pellerin, Ernie St. Pierre, Tom Cardon

1. Introduction/Call to Order. Tom Minnon asked Tom Cardon to serve as a voting member and record minutes in place of Jonathan Kearney.
2. Acceptance of Minutes from 12/21/09 meeting. Minutes accepted as amended by Councilor Brent Carney
3. Chairman's report
 - a. Reviewed Taylor Library's upgrades as discussed in meeting on 12/21/09 which included potential savings for one year.
 - b. Commented on positive press coverage by The Nutfield News.
 - c. Reviewed websites for EEAC links on town website. It was suggested to use only .org sites and not commercial.
 - d. Discussed property tax exemptions for renewable energy upgrade to homes and businesses. Discussed having ground source geothermal and solar as separate ordinances. Emphasize that the exemption will not be costing the town any tax money. Will refer to state definitions in RSA's for renewable sources.
4. Committee moved forward to discussions on New Business.
 - a. Town Recreation Center has received a \$133,000.00 grant from the American recovery and Re-Investment Act. The committee's focus on this will be windows and doors which need to comply with LEED Certification Standards.
 - b. Discussed applying for N.H. EECBG Program funds and forming a committee to research grants. Two areas to focus on would be photovoltaic solar panels (electricity) for the Derry Municipal Center and energy audits for all town-owned buildings.
 - c. Discussed looking into capturing methane gas from Derry landfill.
 - d. Tabled discussion on weatherization workshop.

5. Old Business

- a. Tabled Committee Goals and Committee By-Laws until next meeting.
- b. Tom Cardon and Mark Brassard will work with school department in having school children develop a logo for the EEAC. Winner to be announced on Earth Day, April 22nd.

6. Member Request

- a. Councilor Brent Carney made a suggestion to change the name of the Green Vehicles / Green Building Initiative. Members will discuss a name change at the next meeting.
- b. Councilor Carney listed the following dates that are pertinent to EEAC.
 - i. Taylor Library Supplemental Funding - Consent Agenda Feb 2nd, Public hearing and potential vote on Feb 16 (there will be a 15 minute PowerPoint presentation for this on the 16th)
 - ii. Energy and Environmental Advisory Committee Quarterly Update - Feb 16 (10 minutes)
 - iii. EECEBG Grant Applications - Consent Agenda Jan 19, Public hearing and vote on Feb 2nd (applications are due on Feb 15th, so we would need to vote on the 2nd)
 - iv. Amend the Green Vehicles / Green Building Initiative to change the name of the ordinance - Consent agenda Jan 19th, vote on Feb 2nd.
 - v. The ordinance should be placed on the consent agenda for either the Jan 19th meeting or the Feb 2nd meeting, with a public hearing and possible vote the following meeting. The basis of the ordinances will be to follow the lead of 80+ other NH communities who have already taken this step and exempt specific energy efficiency upgrades to homes and businesses from being taxed as additions/upgrades. The ordinance would require the town to simply continue taxing the homes/businesses as they currently do, and not allow for additional taxes to be added to the assessment for things like solar panels.

7. Meeting adjourned at 8:55

8. Minutes prepared by Tom Cardon