

ENFIELD ENERGY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES of 1/27/2009 -Approved-

MISSION STATEMENT: To identify energy savings for the town and energy savings opportunities for the community

CURRENT GOAL: Our goal is a 10% reduction in total energy consumption by the Town by the end of 2009 with incremental decreases thereafter, toward a three year goal of 25 % reduction in total consumption by the Town (relative to the 2007 baseline data) by the end of the fiscal year 2011.

DATE/TIME: January 27, 2009 5:00 PM

LOCATION: Whitney Hall Conference Room

I. Call to order 5:00 PM

Attendance: Present, Alisa Bonnette (Administrative Staff), Steve Goldsmith (Chair person), Wendell Smith, John Burrirt (alternate), Bo Petersson (alternate), Richard Lammert, Carol Lammert. Absent, Charles DePuy.

Guests: David Stewart, Kim Quirk

II. Approval of minutes for 12/16/2008 meeting

Approved with minor grammatical revisions.

III. Old Business

- Committee Report for 2008 Town Report

The report was submitted on time. The committee expressed their thanks to Steve for writing an excellent report.

- Update on energy related projects around town (Shaker Village Sustainability project, Library Geothermal and ad-hoc group studying Renewable Energy options for Enfield) - Wendell and Bo

Wendell introduced Kim Quirk who will be opening Enfield Energy Emporium in late winter or early spring. Alternative and efficient energy products (solar, geothermal, micro hydro, and wind on roof top [when feasible equipment is available]) geared toward the home owner's needs will be offered. Kim is a graduate of Thayer School of Engineering and will be relocating to this area immanently.

Wendell reviewed the activity with the Shaker Village Sustainability project using micro hydro power at the Stone Mill building. John Burrirt offered to share with Wendell the Eagle Scout topographic and GPS location mapping of the aquifer of the Shaker mountain. Water feed to the Stone mill was reviewed.

Bo presented a review of the near complete Library building design with use of the geothermal system for heating/cooling. A closed loop system with laterals under the current parking lot was discussed. The electrical system to be installed will be adaptable for future renovations to additional energy efficient methods. The building is to be promoted as the first geothermal library in the state.

John mentioned that he will again be attending the Better Buildings by Design Conference in Burlington, Vt. On February 11 and 12. It is the region's premier design and construction conference sponsored annually by Efficiency Vermont and features product exhibitors of the latest residential and commercial building products and two days of workshops focusing on the building envelope, mechanical and lighting systems and high performance innovations. Cost of the two day conference is \$275.00. Further details are available at www.Efficiencyvermont.com/conference.

- Progress report on Town Energy Audit/Baseline consumption and impact/emissions data - Updates to the committee are pending Charlie's return.

Alisa will check on the progress in the change of lighting at the town garage.

- Update on Police Department energy usage -

The committee discussed the potential installation of residential versus commercial programmable thermostats for the Police Department building (which has 13) . Bo expressed his view that residential models would be less costly though sufficient for the building. It was thought that there could be energy savings of 10 - 20 % by lowering thermostats in winter to an acceptable comfort level while encouraging personnel to dress accordingly; and using a night set back temperature of 60 degrees for areas where personnel would not be present.

- Streetlight project -

The current number of lights assessed by committee members is 162 with recommendations that 47 remain as is and that 157 be considered for removal/revision (one was suggested to be on a timer). A rough estimate is that the town could save \$15,000.00 per year.

Carol suggested that the committee has additional work ahead to establish a goal for this project and to further develop assessment criteria.

Input from safety personnel is needed.

It was determined that the committee is not ready to go forward with a presentation to the Selectboard.

- Idling Awareness campaign update -

Rich reviewed the information presented at the previous meeting. No data was available on the suggested canvas of business owners regarding the voluntary posting of signs where idling has been noticed to be an issue. This project must be presented to the Selectboard; however, information may be made available at Town Meeting. At the next meeting the committee will review materials available at no charge from the DES. (Any expenditure of money would have to go through Steve Schneider.) A poster including the state regulation and copies of free materials available through the state DES was suggested. Alisa noted that an easel may be available for a lightweight foam board. John offered the use of a cork board.

Projects - Compact Fluorescent Light (CFL) bulb distribution/sale, local business involvement

The goal is to have citizens exchange incandescent bulbs with energy and cost saving CFL bulbs in their households . Providing information to the public on these savings is one endeavor of the committee. The town's reclamation policy at the transfer station for used CFL's was noted.

CFL's are now less costly, possibly as low as \$1.00 per 15 watt bulb. However, those that may be less expensive may be the older bulbs that are not of the lower mercury content type.

Relevance of the mercury content in a bulb compared with other mercury containing products and mercury released into the air as a result of electricity were discussed. Steve mentioned that

the amount of mercury released into the environment as a result of burning coal to make electricity to power less efficient incandescent bulbs exceeds the amount of mercury contained in a typical compact fluorescent bulb. The desire for low mercury bulbs for distribution was suggested by Carol.

John Burritt presented a preliminary sample Bulb Board that he constructed for demonstrating the size, weight, general layout and spacing requirements for the various components that may be used to compare assorted CFL and LED bulb options. HE included equipment that meets building and electrical code requirements including a three prong grounded cord, a circuit breaker, a grounded outlet, a series of switches and fixtures. Additionally the board contains a Kill A Watt meter. He asked for additional guidance from the committee regarding size, viewing orientation and placement, design, layout, alternate component options, use of handles, casters, etc. It was suggested that the board contain at least 8 fixtures for comparison of different CFL bulbs (brightness, color, hum, wattage comparison, etc.). If a LED bulb is to be used, cost is a factor. Aspects such as additional use of the board, location for viewing by citizens, potential problems/hazards associated with lending it to the public, ease/difficulty of transport and liability were considered. John will seek input from Kin, the committee and others to modify the board design. Incorporating information (a poster or pamphlet) and/or signage for Town Meeting needs to be developed.

The committee considered distribution of bulbs versus vouchers at Town meeting. Preferential treatment for businesses within the town was a concern. Guest Kim Quirk offered that she may be able to assist the committee. Incentives such as the potential take back of CFL bulbs by Kim's business was a point that needs further thought. Disposal of the bulbs by a business at the town transfer station was something that will have to be investigated as commercial refuse is restricted.

Wendell brought up the need to develop a tracking method to verify the effectiveness of the committee in decreasing energy use by the town by the change to CFL's.

Alisa noted that set up for displays at Town Meeting starts on the preceding Friday after school is dismissed. Anticipation of Town meeting participants is estimated to be between 150 - 300 citizens.

- Enfield Energy Committee Website -

Steve encouraged committee members to review the site and offer input. It is at <http://energy.enfield.nh.us> It needs to be readied for "prime time". Send suggestions on materials to include to Steve.

IV. New Business

-Description for Public Materials at the Library -

Marjorie Carr, Head Librarian, has requested that written material be supplied to go with the Kill - A - Meter and the Smart Strip that have been made available to the public. John Burritt volunteered to write the description and the "how to use" information.

- 2009 Town Meeting -

Steve will not be available to make a presentation. Bo offered that he could make a presentation if it were thought to be of value. Considering that a comprehensive report was submitted for the printed Town Report it may suffice.

Regarding man power for a display table and dispersal of educational materials Bo and Rich volunteered to take turns during meeting breaks.

The committee desired that mention be made of the Energy Committees offerings early in the meeting.

- The Enfield Channel - opportunity for public education materials

Steve reported that the studio will soon be ready to go live. It is an all digital production system. The studio is located at the Public Works building. It will be carried on Cable Channel 8. It is an excellent site for presenting educational programs. Steve explained that the funding is through franchise fees.

- Other -

David Stewart spoke with the committee asking individuals for support for a refuse sticker program to provide incentive to limit the volume of trash placed at curbside and to increase the amount of recyclable materials taken to the transfer station. As a member of the Town Budget Committee he is aware that a considerable amount of money is spent on transportation and tipping fees for solid waste. This money could be better spent. Additionally he is disturbed by the amount of recyclable material that is disposed. The committee had addressed the related topic in an early meetings in 2008 as a topic related to energy use. The preliminary plan is to provide 104 stickers per household annually (approximating two 33 gallon bags per week). Containers without stickers would not be collected. Additional stickers could be purchased for \$2.00 each. He asked the committee for support is presenting a petition warrant article for Town Meeting. Members voiced support of this concept. Carol offered to facilitate the process of getting a copy of the petition to the committee members via e-mail. The deadline for the petition to be submitted in February 3. At the next meeting when the wording for the warrant petition is finalized the committee will determine if it will endorse it.

V. Other Items

- Next meeting -

February 24, 2009 5:00 PM Whitney Hall

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Lammert

Committee Secretary

1/29/2009; revised 2/12/'09, 2/19/'09, 2/25/'09