

## ENFIELD ENERGY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES of 4/28/2009 -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 2011 fiscal year.

DATE/TIME: April 28, 2009 5:00 PM

LOCATION: Whitney Hall Conference Room, 23 Main Street, Enfield, NH

### I. Call to order 5:05 PM

Attendance: Present, Alisa Bonnette (Administrative Staff person), Steve Goldsmith (Chair person), Bo Petersson (alternate), Wendell Smith, Rich Lammert, Carol Lammert  
Absent: John Burritt (alternate), Charles DePuy  
Guest: Gary Hubbard of Leading Edge Design Group  
Public: Kim Quirk

### II. Approval of minutes for 3,24, 2009 meeting

Approved with revisions for typographical errors as submitted by e-mail.

### III. Public Comment

Kim Quirk had earlier submitted an item for the meeting agenda to address the status of incentives, rebates, etc. that towns are offering to encourage the use of residential renewable energy. She referenced a website for New Hampshire towns and municipalities with tax exemptions for renewable energy;  
<http://www.nh.gov/ocp/programs/energy/renewableenergy/NMMunicipalitieswithPropertyTaxExemptionsforRenewables.htm#Grafton>. Kim noted that Enfield had “no” indicated for exemptions for any of the renewable energy systems in residences. Steve Goldsmith referenced the 2008 Town Hall Meeting minutes, Articles 16 (solar) and 17 (wind power). The committee discussed the correct interpretation of the final version of Articles 16 and 17 regarding assessed value and the practical aspects of how resale value might be effected. Alisa will confer with Julie to clarify the mechanisms of how tax exemptions are implemented.

### IV. Presentation by Leading Edge Design

Gary Hubbard, Designer of Electrical Efficiency for commercial and public buildings and an Enfield resident presented work that his company does that could benefit the concerns that the Energy Committee has addressed regarding interior and exterior building lighting and energy usage. The committee presented concerns for town owned lighting at the Veteran’s Memorial Park, flag pole lighting, the historic area “acorn” fixtures, and the bridge lighting. Gary presented potential modifications such as LED bulbs, motion sensors, dimmer effects among many other design features that would save energy costs while maintaining esthetically pleasing features. Additionally, the lighting for the proposal for the revisions of the Huse Park area was

mentioned. Gary offered that he could assist by sharing ideas and cost estimates on modifications might be made to a particular project selected by the Energy Committee. Funding is a major concern. Kim offered to look into rebates that might be applicable. Gary offered to also provide his insight into small projects. The committee was appreciative of Gary's offer to assist the town.

A motion was made by Rich that the Committee contact Gary to request a cost assessment for lighting of the Veteran's Memorial Park to decrease the overall energy consumption. The motion was seconded by Wendell. The motion passed unanimously. Prior to noticeable revisions the committee voiced interest in conferring with those citizens who were instrumental in developing the Memorial Park.

## V. Old Business

### Use of the Amazing Fantastic EEC Light Bulb Display Board

Kim reported that there has been keen interest from customers in working with the light board in her shop and during its opening day activities. In her store it is in a secure area and she did not perceive that there would be an issue with needing to protect the bulbs from accidental breakage. She also noted that customers are impressed with the Kill-A-Watt readings when comparing the energy use for bulbs, particularly the incandescent and LED holiday lights. Display of the board at other locations such as Enfield Hardware would be appropriate; however, space within the hardware store may be an issue. Use of the board at public events such as the Farmers' Market and the Shaker Museum's spring Sustainability Festival are other considerations. Portability of the board is a concern.

The committee was pleased with the feature article in the Valley News on the opening of the Enfield Energy Emporium that included a photo of the light board.

Steve spoke to his satisfaction with an LED bulb that he had recently purchased. He asked that LED bulbs, in addition to CFL's be included for comparison of various qualities and energy savings.

Additional costs for the renovations of the board was deferred pending John Burritt's presence.

Instructions for the Kill-A-Watt meter and the Smart Outlet Strip for the Library: One modification suggested is to enhance the headings with bold print. With these changes they were approved. (Attachments # 1 and #2) These instructions will be provided with the equipment that can now be checked out from the Library. Alisa will forward the information to Head Librarian, Marjorie Carr.

Earth Month - select CFL bulbs available at cost from Enfield Hardware and the Energy Emporium

Carol reported that various Enfield stores were consulted and that these two stores agreed to offer select bulbs at cost. Kim Quirk consulted with Ken Stanford and they developed the plan to promote energy savings on 60, 70 and 100 Watt equivalent bulbs from April 22, Earth Day 2009, through May 22. Kim said she has sold 4 - 5 bulbs at cost in the past 6 business days. The committee expressed thanks to these businesses for their commitment to Earth Month.

## Follow up on Earth Hour

Members spoke to their observations. They did not determine a discernable difference in the locations that were observed. Earth Hour is a relatively new international endeavor and there may be a need greater publicity on light pollution, wasted energy and the value of dark skies. One comment was that it fell relatively close to Earth Day and may not have been perceived as having its own entity. For 2010 the committee may promote Earth Week and Earth Hour.

Participation in the village may include turning off lights that are within the towns control; the bridge and Veteran's Memorial park for the observation times.

## Follow up on Earth Day activities and visibility

Regarding handing out information on CFL bulbs Carol reported that on April 22, Earth Day, there were approximately 20 vehicles contacted within 1 and 1/4 hours starting at 12 noon when the Transfer station opened. Several citizens reported having converted their entire home to use of CFL bulbs. One individual spoke to the concern for mercury content of the bulbs. Carol provided that individual with the NH DES information on how to clean up if a bulb broke. Regarding disposal several people were unaware that the Transfer Station collects any size or shape intact fluorescent bulbs. One individual commented that she could not afford CFL's. The committee discussed how a program might set up to offer bulbs to senior citizens unable to purchase them. Kim will check on availability of money for lighting in the government's stimulus package.

Information provided on Idling Awareness was less well received, in Carol's opinion. Hand outs from the NH DES were provided. Responses were that people did idle in cold weather. A few vehicles were observed idling as they progressed through the transfer station stops.

Andy MacDonald commented that many recycling bins had been purchased. He said fewer under sink containers were sold. He does offer a free alternative. Rain water collection barrels are now available. Carol concluded that the experience at the Transfer Station was good, folks were pleasant and she was very appreciative of Mr. MacDonald's helpfulness.

The committee may wish to offer additional activities for Earth Day 2010.

## Follow up on HB 303 on No Idling

The bill was killed.

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

Wendell reported that the hydro electric power for the Shaker Museum is close to obtaining a device. It will probably be used only when there is an adequate water flow. Wendell is conferring with Tim Taylor on generation of hydro electric power in the area of the old Baltic Mill. Remnants of the former system were mentioned. One speculation is to acquire a wooden water wheel. Ideas were exchanged on selling hydro power to the town for systems within the town's control ( down town and bridge lights). Wendell will explore this concept.

Wendell reported that work on the Smith Pond dam is going forward. Finances were discussed.

Bo reported there is no new report on the Library.

Progress report on Town Energy Audit/Baseline consumption and impact/emissions data

Report deferred pending Charlie's presence.

Steve questioned why the hall lights in the DPW's building are on constantly. It was noted that there is no light switch to turn them off/on. Alisa will confer with Ken Daniels.

Street light and outdoor lighting project update

The committee cited the April 25, 2009 Valley News article on Hartford, Vermont's Energy Committee's street lighting initial plan in which 40 % of their 562 lights may be turned off for potentially an annual savings of greater than \$25,000. (It is suggested that 217 be removed and 7 added.) Their current cost for street lights is \$120,000 per year; however, the next fiscal budget for lighting has been cut \$10,000. A comparison was made with the Hartford criteria used to determine which lights are unnecessary, need modification and where lights may be added with the criteria used by Jaffrey, NH in their street light project. Wendell motioned that Carol draft criteria based on these two models and the preliminary survey done by this committee for discussion at the next meeting. The motion was seconded by Rich. The motion was approved.

VI. New Business

Upcoming Events in which the ECC might participate

Representation of Enfield Energy Committee at the SERG meeting May 13

Rich, Carol and Kim will attend. Carol will provide a brief review of the committee's work

Participation in the Shaker Museum's June Country living festival June 6, 2009

The committee discussed what information the committee might present. Wendell suggested that the Energy Audit data with calculations for all energy used (diesel, propane, and electric) be provided and compared to the committee's goals. It was suggested that Wendell confer with Charlie to determine if adequate information is available. Having the light board present was discussed; transportation and availability of electricity were concerns. There is a cost of \$10.00 for a booth which Wendell said he would pay.

Participation as a non-profit organization in one Farmers' Market day

Carol will contact Martha Doelle, Market Manager, to learn if there would be a cost for an inside booth for the day.

Individuals were encouraged to attend Solar Fest on July 10, 11, 12.

Recent press on regional energy concerns

(Valley News articles have been address in the preceding minutes).

The video tape of the opening of the Enfield Energy Emporium are being processed. Eventually, excerpts may be carried on the local TV station. It was noted that John Burrirt's expertise in production is being sought.

Town of Enfield proposal for TIF improvements in Huse Park... lighting concerns

Carol reported that Steve Schneider responded that the Energy Committee's interest in the lighting portion of the proposal would be forwarded to Tim Taylor.

Question on town taxes on renewable energy installations (See comments under Public at the beginning of the minutes.)

Energy meter with computer interface for long term logging of energy usage in town buildings

Charlie had e-mailed his option that this item, available at the Energy Emporium, may be helpful. Kim will consider possibly offering one as a rental unit.

High speed rail in the north east corridor running through our area

This is an item about which those present at the meeting did not have information. There was speculation on where and the length that it might run.

Study of Central Air Conditioning at the Police Station

Charlie had written that he will confer with Chief Crate as a method to off set energy use.

House Bill 189 AN ACT enabling municipalities to establish energy commissions

It passed the NH House and is now presumed to be in committee in the Senate.

Committee Membership

As of May 1, 2009 Wendell will be reinstated as a full committee member. Carol moved to recommend to the Board of Selectmen the appointment of Kim Quirk as an alternate member of the Energy Committee. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Other Items

Next Meeting May 26, 2009 5 PM Whitney Hall Conference Room

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Lammert, Secretary