

MINUTES

ENERGY COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 13, 2013

5:45 P.M.

GREAT BARRINGTON TOWN HALL

334 MAIN STREET, GREAT BARRINGTON

- I. Call to Order. Michael, Chris, Michele, Beth, Brandee, present; 5:50 pm Ryan and Joe Sokul joined; Nancy joined at 6:10 pm
- II. Introduce New Committee Member – Michael Supranowitz; introductions were made.
- III. Approval of Minutes from January 9 Meeting – tabled until March meeting.
- IV. Green Communities Grant Update – Joe Sokul – discussed the State reviewed the revised application and required more detailed information to update the grant application. As part of the budget process this year in working to apply the grant funds and allocate money for energy efficiency goals a management systems for fuel consumption is being considered along with the air sealing/insulating. Additionally, he contacted historic window refurbishment contractor, Green & Robinson, regarding the Mason Library, which has \$155,000 from old Mason library budget which can be reallocated to enact the Energy Reduction Plan (ERP) goals set for Mason Library. Joe says he referenced Table 4 from ERP as part of his budget planning and that it is a useful tool. Regular maintenance items are being taken care of in the budget. Joe will send everyone the building CIP and the Energia quotes used for the revised application.

FY 14 will be when Green Community funds will be expended; we cannot apply for additional funds until the first funds are expended.

Joe requested the energy committee identify which new projects to include in grant application since we are only at \$108,000 of the \$142,700.

Motion was made by Beth to recommend once appropriate prices are obtained from the contractor, and as long as the quote fits within the budget, that improvements be prioritize based on projects identified in the ERP for Mason Library, Town Hall and Ramsdale Library. Michelle 2nd; all in favor.

End of fiscal year 13 report on ERP progress as our annual report.

MassEnergyInsight data entry on fuel needs to be completed. Joe checking on the status.

BRPC Energy Round Table is end of February. Committee members will attend if possible.

Nancy is pursuing the Havis energy reduction system which reduces idling to save fuel (The IdleRight system) and will provide it to Joe.

- V. Sustainability Meeting – debrief from 1/30/13 meeting; which discussed community health in the broadest sense.

Michele left 6:35

Ryan advised the Master Plan Committee has a sustainability chapter and has resolved that solar be reviewed for all municipal sites.

- VI. Solar Report Status – Forward to Select Board and Sustainability Meeting Group the Solar Report the committee has developed. Chris is preparing the matrix for the solar report and then we will submit after next meeting.

Can we get a price for solar on the fire house so that Joe can put it in CIP or other budget?

- VII. Solarize Mass Grants – The grant has a September deadline; committee needs to identify a coordinator and make recommendation to Select Board. This issue will be tabled until the new town manager is selected.
We can partner with up to three communities; possibly go with Egremont and Stockbridge or West Stockbridge. Possibly coordinate with the Towns in the school district and invite the district to participate.
Laura Dubester – Ryan to contact
Energy Committee – Ryan to contact

- VIII. Open Discussion Items – Beth updated us on the Orlowfsky’s program - Billion Dollar Green Challenge (BDGC) which is assistance to set up a revolving energy/sustainability fund; funded at a college by a directed gift. BDGC provides supporting information; has to be seeded with a Bond or a line item. Mason, Ohio is pursuing. Mark talked to Select Board last week. The committee may bring this up in a couple months to Select Board.

Fairgrounds Development –The site is being set up as a non-profit and working with a solar developer (the same developer as at Jiminy Peak) – The

Fairgrounds group has inquired if the town be interested in a power purchase agreement. Kevin ODonnell said we are already working with Hampshire Council Of Governments (COG) to possibly pursue energy purchase options.

Chris and Brandee to talk to Kevin. Brandee will set up meeting for next week to discuss how Hampshire COG and Berkshire Regional Planning BRPC programs overlap.

- IX. Next Meeting Date- Possible Agenda Items. 3/13 at 5:45 pm; Brandee to circulate date to committee.
- X. Adjournment. Without objection adjournment at 7:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Brandee Nelson
Secretary