

Minutes
Energy Advisory Committee
Date: 21 May 2010

Present: Sharon Anderson, Bob Blackman, George D'Auteuil, Jim Dunn, John McGarry, Brian Stowell

Absent: Rick Bedard, Laurie Connors, Brad Turner

Call to Order: 8:50 AM. Jim Dunn, in Laurie's stead, called the meeting to order.

Acceptance of Past Minutes: Bob motioned to approve the minutes of 16 April. Brian seconded. Unanimous vote.

Reports:

1. James Bill and Doug Bell of *Mass Wind* reported on their experiences putting up turbines. They claim to be able to return 50 K back to the public. They said that with the "state route," you apply for a grant, get someone to do a study and make a report; whereas in the private sector, you can make a deal for the power, but not for the land. James Bill explained that *Mass Wind* competes with *SED* and *Solars* and that *Alicon* makes their turbines. They offered to "get something in" to us as soon as possible, if we wanted.
2. Brian Stowell reported on the *Draft Fuel-efficient Energy Policy*. Much of the discussion focused on police cruisers and whether or not they can ever be fuel-efficient and do what they are supposed to? Cruisers are exempt right now, but will this hold in the future? Brian's inventory satisfied the audit, but the question arose: is there a schedule for projected future needs? Brian agreed to meet with Bob, John and Rick to further discuss any future changes.

3. Bob Blackman reported on:

(a) The Purchase of Solar Equipment for Municipal Office Building and high school

He got the P.O. for the floodlights for the three schools and the Town Hall. This came to \$1,392.88. Volunteers have agreed to install them. In addition, Paul Rodenbush and Jim Dunn are putting up sample lights at the high school. Bob and Jim will meet with the science teacher to talk to him about the solar project.

(b) The Stretch Energy Code

Bob went to a meeting about this. The 2009 ICC Energy Code will be implemented on 1 July. It is purported to be 20% more efficient than the present code. Although builders are concerned that this new code will add 8-10 thousand dollars to the price of a house, the State says it will only be more like \$2,500, but well worth it in future energy savings. Bob believes it will "not be much worse."

As for the Stretch Energy Code, the people of Millbury must vote on it at town meeting in order to adopt it, and this will not take place until next year.

4. Jim Dunn reported for Laurie Connors on the MassEnergyInsight Inventory. Laurie says it is progressing, but that it is very difficult to do the inventory and get everything into the system. For instance, with streetlights: which ones go to which meters? Sometimes there are a string of street lights on one meter; sometimes not. There are times Laurie has to consult with the individual clerks, and this is very time-consuming.

New Business:

Bob and Jim were excited to report that there is a little money left (\$1,500) from the MA Technology Collaborative Matching Funds Program. They felt that this money could be put to use in perhaps Grades 4, 5 & 6 by promoting Energy Awareness through a contest. Whichever class/student comes up with the highest savings would win \$100 or passes to the Museum of Science. Details could be worked out, and this idea would help fulfill other dictates of the MA Technology Collaborative.

Adjournment: Bob motioned to adjourn at 10:00 AM. John seconded. Unanimous vote.

Next Meeting: Friday 18 June at 8:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Anderson

ATTEST:
