

Minutes

Energy Advisory Committee

Date: 25 June 2010

Present: Sharon Anderson, Rick Bedard, Bob Blackman, Laurie Connors, George D'Auteuil, Jim Dunn

Absent: John McGarry, Brian Stowell, Brad Turner

Call to Order: 8:40 AM.

Acceptance of Past Minutes:

21 May Minutes acceptance was postponed until 30 July because of the lack of a quorum of members present from that meeting.

Chair's Minute:

Laurie discussed the *Wind Turbine Feasibility Study Grant* with *Weston & Sampson*. The engineer wished to work with a small group from our *Energy Advisory Committee* to get swift answers when necessary. It was felt that Laurie, John, and Jim would be a good fit for this sub-committee.

The next step is to finalize the contract from the *Clean Energy Center* to pay for the feasibility study. Then the Town will finalize a contract with Weston and Sampson that dovetails with the *Clean Energy Center* contract.

Weston & Sampson would like to get started right away as it takes four to six months to complete the first phase. Then the first public outreach will occur when the draft feasibility study is complete. The Board of Selectmen, the Energy Advisory Committee, and the *Butler Farm Reuse Committee* will be invited to the presentation.

Jim had concerns about the extra sum that *Weston & Sampson* will require to do the met tower, but Laurie said this will be worked out through contract negotiations within a few weeks.

Next, Laurie reported on the *Energy Inventory* of oil, gas, and electric using illustrative handouts. Certainly the schools are the largest consumers in Millbury with the Senior Center and Library not far behind. Perhaps a National Grid Inventory of the Senior Center would be advisable? The Municipal Office Building wastes a great deal of energy dollars as it was configured incorrectly some forty years ago.

As usage information appeared to be missing on certain buildings, Jim suggested that Laurie bring the EXCEL spreadsheet previously composed to the next Committee Meeting so that the Committee could have a more accurate picture of consumption.

Reports:

Bob and Jim met with Previn Travedi, science teacher at the high school, to discuss implementation of the *MA Technology Collaborative Matching Funds Program*. Since they were able to purchase equipment at reduced costs, there is approximately a \$1,500 surplus.

Jim suggested that the Town apply the surplus money towards a public education campaign which is an acceptable application of funds under the provisions of the Program. He passed out a two-page proposal which was discussed at length by the Committee.

He proposed that the Town hold an Energy Efficiency Awareness Competition that would increase energy efficiency awareness through a special education program and competition to be conducted in the Millbury school System next fall for grades 4-12.

Using the students' home electrical bills, and based on implementing energy-efficiency tactics learned in school, the competition would track reduction in energy use over a five-month period. Those who achieve the highest reduction in energy use over the contest period would receive prizes and a field trip to the Museum of Science in Boston.

In addition, kilowatt meters and a toy solar car would be awarded to all who participated. The more people who get involved, the more homes will become energy efficient in the future.

The Committee ultimately agreed that it would be wise to limit the contest to grades 4 through 6. Potential prizes could include T-shirts, coupons for pizza, movie passes, etc.

New Business:

The Committee discussed that it is very difficult to get as much accomplished as might be when the *Energy Advisory Committee* members' attendance is sporadic. Bob motioned that a new policy be put into effect whereby if a member misses three meetings during the year, the Committee will ask the Selectmen to appoint a replacement. Rick seconded this motion. Unanimous vote.

Adjournment: Rick motioned to adjourn. George seconded. Unanimous vote.

Next Meeting: Friday 30 July at 8:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Anderson

ATTEST:
