

Town of Newtown, CT

3 Primrose Street, Newtown, CT

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE SUSTAINABLE ENERGY COMMISSION

12-19-2013

The Sustainable Energy Commission held a regular meeting Thursday, December 19, 2013 in shared meeting room 3 of the Municipal Center located at 3 Primrose Street, Newtown, CT 06470.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Kathy Quinn at 7:02 pm.

Present: Chairman, Kathy Quinn, Mark Sievel, Fred Hurley, Charlie Copp, Joseph Borst, James Gulalo

Absent: Desiree Galassi, Barbara Toomey

Public: Collin Babbage

Communications:

No communications this month.

Acceptance of Minutes:

Mr. Borst made a motion to accept the minutes of the November 21, 2013 meeting minutes with the following corrections: PPA stands for power purchase agreement, Reed School solar system units should be kw not kwh, and the tree lights were incandescent but are now LED lights. Mr. Sievel seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Old Business:

HES Program

Ms. Quinn and Mr. Hurley attended a ceremony at the Capitol in Hartford and Newtown was presented with a \$10,000 grant for their accomplishments with the HES program.

Solarize CT

There are currently 11 signed contracts and 23 appointments scheduled with the representative from Astrum. During the appointment, the representative from Astrum does an evaluation and creates a proposal if the site has the necessary requirements for a solar system.

There is an upcoming workshop on January 21, 2014 at the Sandy Hook Firehouse at 6 pm about the Solarize CT program.

Next Solar Projects

Requests for Proposals (RFPs) are going out for the brownfield sites, the Reed School, the Maintenance Garage, and the Animal Shelter. The RFPs will be for power purchase agreements (PPAs) and the process will be the same as the Middle School.

There is a possibility that virtual net metering will be available to municipalities, there are just a few questions that need to be clarified.

Energy Savings Performance Contract – IGA Status

There is a meeting tentatively scheduled on January 8, 2014 to present the preliminary findings.

Transition Movement

No update.

Municipal Energy Plan

Ms. Quinn has a majority of the figures for all energy use for all municipal buildings. This information is needed to start on the plan.

Budgets / Grants

The town has received a \$10,000 grant for the accomplishments in the HES program. The commission needs to start thinking about what they want to use it for. Ms. Quinn will send out the guidelines to the commission members to review.

Tree Lights

The Sustainable Energy Commission received a mention in a Letter to the Editor in the *Newtown Bee* about their contributions to lighting the Sandy Hook tree.

Ms. Quinn reported that the Hawleyville Tree is handled by the Stony Hill Four Corners Society.

Reed School 5 kw System

The solar system will be finished over the holidays.

New Business

Sandy Hook Elementary School

The town had a meeting with the Sandy Hook School designers who are looking for to get a LEED certification for the building. The architects and designers are still deliberating on the mechanical systems for the school. The final decision should be made in January.

Adjournment:

Mr. Borst made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 pm. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gulalo. The motion was carried unanimously.

The next regular meeting will occur on Thursday, January 16, 2014 at 7:00 pm at the Newtown Municipal Center in Shared Meeting Room 3.

Submitted, Jessica Smith, clerk.