

Town of Northborough Wind Turbine Committee



August 18, 2010
Wind Turbine Committee Meeting
Northborough Town Hall
63 Main St. (Route 20)
Selectman's Meeting Room 2nd floor

Reference: NWC10:818-33

AGENDA

7:00pm

1. Old Business:

- a. Approval of August 4, 2010 Meeting Minutes.
- b. APR On going
- c. NORTHBOROUGH MA, RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY



FOR
THE WIND TURBINE PROJECT "MET" TOWER
AUGUST 5TH, 2010 2:00 PM
BALL HILL, NORTHBOROUGH, MA

MISTRESS OF CEREMONY

Fran Bakstran, Board of Selectmen

INTRODUCTION AND COMMENTS

Edward Cahill, Wind Turbine Committee

INVITED GUEST SPEAKERS

CONGRESSMAN JAMES MCGOVERN

STATE SENATOR HARRIETTE CHANDLER
STATE REP. HAROLD NAUGHTON
STATE SENATOR JAMES ELDRIDGE

NORTHBOROUGH BEGINS AN \$85,000 WIND ENERGY FEASIBILITY STUDY

MET is Up by Linda Brenckle NorthboroNews.Org

The wind blew steadily high atop Ball Hill on Thursday, cooling the crowd of 70 or so gathered on this open, sunny spot to celebrate the opening of Northborough's new meteorological environmental tower (MET). The 165-foot tower, stabilized by steel guy cables affixed to concrete anchors, will gather wind, air temperature, and pressure data for the next year to determine the feasibility of installing a permanent wind turbine at this or one of the two other locations, Davidian Farm and Mount Pisgah.

The erection of the tower is a milestone in a transparent and comprehensive process that began in August of 2007, according to Mr. Ed Cahill, a member of the Wind Turbine Committee, that has involved the collaborative efforts of local organizations and individuals, the Northborough Engineering Department, the Davidian and Tougas families, the Offices of US Representative Jim McGovern, State Senator Harriet Chandler, and State Representative Harold Naughton, the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center, the UMass-Amherst Wind Energy Center, the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative, the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources, and Sustained Energy Developments, Incorporated, the project managers.

In their addresses before the ribbon-cutting by Senator Chandler, Selectmen Fran Backstran, and Mr. Maurice (Moe) Tougas, Senator Chandler and Representative Naughton both praised the progressive thinking of those promoting the project. Speaking of a need to develop renewable energy sources, Senator Chandler described the people of Northborough as early adapters, pioneers in the process, "Northborough is a real leader in this." Her sentiment was echoed by Representative Naughton, "it tells us about the people that look beyond their own generation to the next,... (it is) reflective of the values, integrity, and trust that people put in each other." Further he praised the ability of parties in the process to develop strategic alliances for the betterment of the community.

All speakers acknowledged the generosity of Mr. Tougas in permitting use of his farm for erection of the MET and eventually the wind turbine. Mr. Ron Hall of the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources, described Mr. Tougas as, "a tremendous steward of this land for agriculture here who has been very progressive in his thinking on how to keep his farm in workable fashion for agriculture as well as to look into new ventures for alternative energy and wind." For his part, Mr. Tougas began 30 years ago investigating installation of solar panels on farm building roofs to provide power for his farm operations. So, when the idea of a wind turbine for Northborough was advanced in 2007, he was quick to step forward to offer use of his land. "Quite a few farms are doing this," he says, "we have a site; let's see if we can make it work."

2. New Business Topics:

- a. Net Metering issue 1% limit of peak load for net-metering in MA. Need to get in the queue.

DG Interconnection Workshop (held jointly by NSTAR & National Grid):

When: October 12, 2010

Time: 8:30 AM to 11:30 AM

Where: NSTAR Electric, Westwood

Topics: DG Interconnection Process, Net Metering, Q&A

Seating is limited so please RSVP either by phone or e-mail by October 1, 2010 to:

Tarik Mubassir

Phone: 781-441-8458

E-mail: tarik.mubassir@nstar.com

- b. School and Town electric Bills New data being reviewed - Dick Jones

- c. Prep for Applefest Streetfair - The 2010 Northborough Applefest Streetfair is scheduled for Saturday, **September 11th**, on Blake Street in downtown Northborough, MA.

The Streetfair attracts close to 10,000 visitors every year, and offers over 130 booth displays, a food court, a covered picnic bench eating area, musical entertainment for the young, a petting zoo, police and fire truck displays, and many, many craft and merchant displays. The rain date for the Streetfair is Sunday, September 12th. If it rains both days, there will be no Streetfair and no refund.

3. Working Group Chairperson Report (s)

4. Any Other Business to Come Before the Committee

5. Next meeting Date: September 15, 2010 (Wed).

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Selectman's Meeting Room 2nd floor - TBD

(We will go back to Meeting every third Wednesday of the month)

6. Public Comments: Note: Limited to **Registered Voters** only unless preapproved by Chair; speakers limited to 5 minutes/agenda item.

Adjournment 8:30 PM

cc

Andy Dowd (Town Clerk)

John Coderre (Town Administrator)

Fran Bakstran (BOS). Liaison Board of Selectmen

QuickTime™ and a
decompressor
are needed to see this picture.

WIND TURBINE COMMITTEE:

Fred Litchfield (Town Engineer)
Joe McNamara (Co- Chairman)
Bob Giles (Co- Chairman)
Edward Cahill
Richard Kane
William Halter
Ron Parker
Richard Jones (Planning and Logistics Manager)

ALTERNATES:

Maggie Harling
John Cragin

ADVISORY GROUP:

Phil Johnson (Chairman)
Dave R. Mailly
Ravi Chilakamari
Richard H Burton
Len Belli
Raj Melville
Bill Otoole
Dick Sweeney
Matt Vanderbrook (SED)