

*Town of Northborough*  
**Wind Turbine Committee (WTC)**



October 2, 2009  
Wind Turbine Committee Meeting  
Conference Room 1<sup>st</sup> floor, Northborough Free Library  
34 Main Street  
Northborough, MA 01532

**Reference:NWC09:10MM**

MEETING MINUTES  
September 23, 2009

**Attendees**

<u>Members</u>	<u>Alternates</u>	<u>Advisor</u>
E. Cahill		D. Burton
B. Halter	J. Cragin	P. Johnson
R. Giles (Co Chair)	M. Harling	
R. Jones		
J. McNamara (Co Chair)		

**Town of Northborough Officials**

F. Litchfield (Town Engineer)

**Guests**

7:00 PM Northborough Wind Turbine Committee (WTC) called to order

1. The meeting began with a welcome by the co-chairmen, introductions around the table, and acceptance of the August 25th meeting minutes.
2. R. Giles proceeded with the agenda and the various working committees reported on progress.
3. J. McNamara reported on the September 8<sup>th</sup> meeting with members of the Agricultural Department, Senators Chandler & Eldridge with a representative from Rep Naughton's office and Selectwoman Bakstram, Town Engineer Litchfield and R. Giles, R. Jones & J. McNamara members of the Northborough WTC.

Summary: the Agricultural Department was not aware of the wind turbine project's progress to date and its fast track schedule. Their representative focused on the legal aspects of the Agricultural Preservation Restrictions (APR) Program. A follow-up letter dated September 15<sup>th</sup> provides the Agricultural Department's initial position. It may be possible to obtain a Certificate of Approval (COA) for the Met Tower without significant legislative or WTC effort.

Follow-up meetings with Senator Chandler and other members of the legislature will be scheduled to discuss the matter further.

4. M. Harling reported additional progress on the Applefest display booth and requested volunteers

- to answer questions at the booth during specified times. She also provided T-shirts, book markers and other related materials to help explain the project objectives. M. Harling will also investigate independent fund raising opportunities for the turbine project similar to the "Friends of the Senior Center". If the required Town approvals are obtained copies of the WTC press release will be provided as one-page handouts. Multiple copies of the project laminated conceptual outline drawing will also be posted in various public spaces around town.
5. An updated presentation to the Board of Selectmen (BOS) was delayed to October 2009.
  6. The Overall Project Schedule will be upgraded to reflect delays in MTC application forms, issuance of the consultant RFQ and a signed MOU to install the met tower. A tentative in service date is now 2012.
  7. The RFQ for consultant services will be issued by the Town Administrator's office for bids toward the end of the month.
  8. R. Burton reported he had difficulty investigating the surplus wind turbines availability and that the machine warranties had expired. The WTC agreed to delay further inquiries into the matter.
  9. Several alternative locations on the Tougas property were identified for the Met tower.
  10. Working Group chairs were requested to use the action items list help efficiently brief the WTC on progress within their individual groups.

### **Three Month Look Ahead (July thru September 2009) – Critical Action Items**

1. Revise and sign Memorandum of Understanding with Tougas Family Farm  
*Responsibility* – Co-Chairs/Town Engineer
2. Review bids and award RFQ for technical consultant  
*Responsibility* – Co-Chairs/Town Engineer
3. Obtain funding to erect met tower and install the tower  
*Responsibility* – Co-Chairs/Town Engineer
4. Begin project financial analysis by collecting electric bill data  
*Responsibility* – Working Group #2
5. Consider development of a public out reach plan  
*Responsibility* – Working Group #4
6. Investigate Federal, State and Town permit and licensing requirements  
*Responsibility* – Working Group #5

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:05PM.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 7, 2009 at 7:00PM in the library conference room

R. Jones  
WTC Member

cc      Town Clerk                      Fran Bakstran (BOS)  
          Town Administrator        Joe McNamara (Co- Chairman)  
          Town Engineer                Bob Giles (Co- Chairman)