

## **Orleans Renewable Energy / Wind Power Committee**

## Minutes of Committee Meeting January 13, 2009

The January 13, 2009 meeting of the Orleans Renewable Energy/Wind Power Committee (REWP) was Called to Order at 4:02PM in the Nauset Meeting Room of the Town Hall. Present were Chairman Allen Kolchinsky, Committee members: Richard Philbrick, Ken Rowell, and Robert McCoy, Mary Jane Curran, and Dave Hubbard. Others present: John Jannell, Planning Dept liaison; Michael Hanlon, Steve Wiehe, of Weston&Sampson Contract firm: Lou Briganti, Water Dept.; Ann Hodgkinson, Water Commissioner; Hank Schumacher.

Absent: Victor Noerdlinger, Committee and Larry Hayward, Finance Committee liaison.

Chair Kolchinsky mentioned the upcoming Cape Light Compact/Town Energy Committees Meeting on January 23, 2009 at 1:00PM at the Harwich Community Center, 100 Oak Street, Harwich.

Also mentioned a memo from Liz Argo who is inquiring about receiving an update from the Committee of ongoing work and happenings.

Allen stated that the REWP Committee is a little over a year old and wants the Committee members to think about what the Committee needs for a summary of its work to meet its charge from the BOS. The end of the Committee is rapidly approaching in June.

Chair Kolchinsky asked to adjust the agenda to allow Weston&Sampson Representative to speak to Committee on Contract awarded to them for the Wind Financial Feasibility Study. This is the Kick-off Meeting of the Contract. Michael Hanlon spoke as Chair of Weston&Sampson and introduced Steve Wiehe, Project Manager. Steve went over an outline of their proposed work(handout) schedule. He covered the main points and explained some of the ongoing information available and the relationship to the Green Communities Act passed this last summer. He went on to explain some of the problems acquiring large turbines and the support/maintenance needed. Many Companies who manufacture turbines want to sell turbines in multiples, not just one turbine. This does complicate purchase and installation of one turbine.

A question and answer session occurred after Steve's presentation. John Jannell mentioned that the Water Plant constituted about 60% of the Town's electric bill. Most of which occurs in the summer when the winds are not as prevalent and when the population of Orleans expands greatly. Will the REC's be able to carry over month to month or for how long? What will be the cost of the REC's in the future? Steve mentioned the estimated cost of energy increases only 2% a year. Other monies may be available to purchase and install turbines according to Steve.

Chair Kolchinsky thanked Weston&Sampson and moved back to agenda.

## Old Business:

Exit 12 Cloverleaves; No new information or word from the State on the possible use of the Exit 12 Cloverleaves. Another letter from BOS is to be sent to see if movement on the use can be done. Dick Philbrick said we should push a meeting with the State personnel here or in Boston.

Energy Survey's: Committee is going to fill out surveys and Committee will see if and what conclusions can be garnered before we finalize the survey. Ken Rowell made several additions and will update the form on computer and send out the updated survey.

Watershed Wind Turbine Project: Hope for a meeting with Town Council in early February to answer questions pertaining to placement of a turbine on the watershed or elsewhere in Town What

legal requirements are needed to meet our goal of a turbine on the watershed and on other Town owned lands? One question that arises is if the Town joins the Cape and Vineyard Electric Cooperative and 10% of the power generated could possibly go back to the Coop, what are the ramifications legally? Especially since the land was taken specifically for water use/productions.

Citizen Forum: Bob Donath of the Citizen Forum wants to conduct a Town Forum with Alternative Energy as a topic. Discussions are open between Chair Kolchinsky and Donath for a forum possibly in the Spring.

Chair Kolchinsky reminded Committee to have questions for the upcoming Town Energy Committees meeting in Harwich. Next REWP meeting on Jan. 27<sup>th</sup>.

Sarry All

Adjourned at 5:35PM

David L. Hubbard, Clerk