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Renewable Energy Committee

March 16, 2010 - Minutes

A meeting of the Orleans Renewable Energy Committee was called to order at 4:05 p.m. in the Skaket Meeting Room at the Orleans Town Hall by Chair Mary Jane Curran.

Present: Ken Rowell, Victor Noerdlinger, David Hubbard, Kenneth Rowell, Jim Hungerford. John Jannell, Planning Dept. Liaison and Paul Rooker, Finance Committee.

Absent: Sims McGrath, BOS Liaison, Richard Philbrick, Chris Galazzi.

Old Business:

Mass Energy Insight - John Jannell gave a powerpoint program on the Mass Energy Insight Program. It is an online website energy data system. It is a one stop energy info center for the town and it is free. It requires the town to set an energy use baseline year which the town can select. The energy data has come from the local utility with John not having to enter the data. The information available is down to the department and building level. John is still learning the program and it's capabilities. DOER does have access to the data.

Info within the system can give rates of increase or decrease in energy use with overall use and emissions. It will track use and cost for departments and buildings. Could be useful in tracking waste and excess use. Ken Rowell asked about the potential of entering data for wind turbine and see what impact of usage is. Could show Board of Selectman impacts that could occur. Audits of Town buildings have occurred with the police having theirs completed.

Planning Board Meeting - Planning Board meeting on building mounted wind turbines passed a by-law which would allow roof mounted and free standing wind turbines through the special permit process. Mary Jane spoke on the information available on roof mounted turbines and problems associated with them. The business of Sun Wind LLC and representative Timothy Holmes also spoke about roof mounted wind turbines.

Committee discussed recent problems of storm damage to wind turbines and what the results will be with the public image of future projects.

COA Solar Project - John Jannell gave an update on the solar panel project at the Council of Aging. The required documents are being sent to John Kelly as we speak.

The size and array could vary. John handed out an info sheet on the project. The rate of the SREC's for the project is currently set at .28 cents.

Noise Meter - The Health Dept. has a noise meter which can be used by Committee. Jim Hungerford mentioned that he is planning to take a large number of measurements around town and also to travel to other locations including the MMA wind turbine in Bourne. Jim will take the measurements at different times at same locations, different directions, and at varying distances from identified sources of noise. Need a well rounded approach to identify many sources at varying distances to inform the public of the noise levels present around town. Locations can also be entered into a GPS data base to give exact location of measurements.

Minutes of March 2 meeting approved with the inclusion of handouts from Dick Philbrick and Victor Noerdlinger in Committee minutes records. Vote was 5-0-0.

Next meeting on April 6, 2010 at 4:00PM in Skaket Room

Meeting adjourned at 5:23

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David L. Hubbard", written in a cursive style.

David L, Hubbard, Clerk