

TOWN OF ORLEANS TOWN CLERKS OFFICE 10 JUN - 1 PM 3: 56

Renewable EnergyCommittee

For Official Use Only

May 4, 2010 - Minutes

A meeting of the Orleans Renewable Energy Committee was called to order at 4:02PM in the Skaket Meeting Room at the Orleans Town Hall by Chair Mary Jane Curran.

Present: Mary Jane Curran, Ken Rowell, Victor Noerdlinger, David Hubbard, Dick Philbrick, John Jannell, Planning Dept. Liaison, Paul Rooker, Finance Committee

Liaison, Sims McGrath

Absent: Jim Hungerford and Chris Galazzi .

Old Business:

Mary Jane Curran emphasized the need to move forward toward implementation of the Green Community Act. John Jannell reviewed guideline #3 of the Green Communities Act. John stated that DOER is trying to get information updated on the most recent month so the information in the system is current. The information system should indicate to the Town how the energy usage is doing. Town still has to determine or select a base year to utilize as the baseline. John J. asked the Committee to develop question for Steve Pickering, the DOER southeast Mass. Green Communities Coordinator.

Special Town Meeting Article: John Jannell mentioned that there is an Article on the Town Meeting Warrant relating to a general authorization for the Orleans Board of Selectmen(BOS)to participate with the Cape and Vineyard Electric Cooperative(CVEC) Harwich and Brewster Wind Energy projects. The authorization is required by the Town Charter. John reported that the Town Council and the BOS did not feel comfortable with the information to date on the CVEC data. To many blanks unfilled to make a decision. John commented on the Harwich Wind Turbine Project and the good possibility that it will not go since the Town Meeting rejected it. The BOS made the decision to remand the article back to the BOS in the future. The Article is still in the Town Warrant and a Special Town Meeting may be held in the fall if the need arises to continue membership in CVEC. The Rural Utilities Service will pay for most of the projects in Brewster and Harwich if continued. The Renewable Energy Committee still supports the BOS and the decision to belong with CVEC and wind energy projects.

Sound Data Report: Ken Rowell spoke on the results of the samples taken to date with a sound meter. No readings have exceeded 61 DB's in the samples. Most of the samples have ambient noise at a higher level than the turbines. Car, truck, wind in

trees, etc create more noise than turbine. John J. mentioned that noise is becoming an issue. The Harwich wind turbine project and Falmouth wind turbine have citizens complaining about the possible noise or current noise from turbine.

Council on Aging Solar Project(COA): John J. reported that there is no progress on the project. Project should be completed by fall if current planning is followed. It should lower the power usage at the building.

John J. has arranged for Steve Pickering to be at the REC meeting on July 20th. Committee members should consider questions for him.

Committee members Dick Philbrick and Victor Noerdlinger terms are up in 2010. Both Dick and Victor are interested in staying on the Committee. The will have to express their interest by filling out a citizen interest form.

Exit 12 energy project: Mary Jane C. mentioned that Steven Clark of the State called her. There will be a meeting to discuss the possible usage of the Exit 12 cloverleaves for wind energy projects. Steven mentioned there is State concern over the size of the cloverleaves(fall zones) and the flicker affect to the public motorist. Committee packet included copies of past letters to Ian Bowles of Energy and Environmental Affairs.

John J. reported that the Fat Bellies Solar Compactors have been installed near the bus stop by CVS in the center of Town and at Depot Square by Mid-Cape Lumber. Additional funds may become available for the purchase of another. The other funds are being held until the COA project is complete.

Quick discussion of a newspaper article on a solar panel project in Harwich.

Minutes of the April 20, 2010 meeting approved by 4-0-0.

Meeting adjourned at 5:13PM.

David L. Hubbard, Clerk