



K. DeLing Assl.
TOWN OF ORLEANS
TOWN CLERKS OFFICE

10 SEP 21 PM 3:51

Renewable Energy Committee

August 17, 2010 - Minutes

For Official Use Only

A meeting of the Orleans Renewable Energy Committee was called to order at 4:00PM 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, Jim Hungerford, Chris Galazzi, John Jannell, Planning Dept. Liaison.

Absent: Sims McGrath, BOS liaison, Paul Rooker Finance Committee liaison.
Also present was Carl Freeman who arrived late.

Green Communities Certification and Grant Program

- a. Mary Jane reported on the meeting of the sub-committee with the Building Inspectors of Orleans and their conclusions on the adoption of the "Stretch Code" guidelines. Discussions of meeting the five guideline of the Green Communities Act (GCA) centered on #5 of the Stretch Code as the most difficult to meet. A new state building code was developed in 2009 and takes affect in 2010. The Stretch Code is a level above these requirements. The aim of the Stretch Code is to improve efficiency of the buildings by 20%. Mashpee, the only Cape town with a GCA designation will begin using the "stretch code" next year. Presently, Town Inspectors look at the efficiency in addition to the regular building inspections. With the "stretch code", local inspectors cannot inspect the GCA requirements. Trained HERS Inspectors have the last say on the project construction as to whether the project meets the "stretch code" requirements. There is only one HERS Inspector on the cape and he is in Sandwich. There is concern with the current system of training HERS Inspectors. The HERS Inspectors are generally Building Contractors who are in charge of training new Inspectors. This could create a shortage of new HERS Inspectors or at minimum, control the number. Another concern expressed was that HERS Inspectors, being a third party, could hold up or delay inspections. There is one house in Orleans that meets the "stretch code" requirements.
- b. Study results of the "stretch code" construction does show a positive cash flow within the first year. Mary Jane feels that Orleans should work to become a Green Community with input and effort from all the Committee members. Committee discussed the possibility of contacting local contractors and seeing what their views and opinions of the new requirements would be. It also might be helpful to get a HERS Inspector to one of the Committee meetings and ask questions of the process. The HERS Inspector is actually hired by the builder. There are 44 communities adopting the "stretch code".

Ken Rowell made a motion, seconded by Dick Philbrick to "Committee will write a report on the Green Communities Act guidelines 1-5 to submit to a future BOS meeting. Committee voted 7-0-0 for motion. Ken added an amendment to first motion with a Jim Hungerford second "The REC will hold a discussion among its members on guidelines 1-5 in preparation for the Final Report to the BOS." Voted 7-0-0. John Jannell will write summaries of the guidelines for review by the Committee at the September 7 meeting. Many questions arose as to the process, how to approach the BOS to adopt the stretch code, many town homes are vacant for long periods of time, are there technical limits for contractors?

COA Solar Project Schedule

John Jannell included a time line of the project in the Committee's packet. Project moving along on time and looking for an October start. Pre-bid meeting today with three companies present. Project will be on two faces of the building, southeast and southwest.

No Old Business

No New Business

No Correspondence

Minutes of 8-3-10. Dave Hubbard and Mary Jane will finalize.

Adjourned at 5:11PM

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David L. Hubbard". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "David" being more prominent.

David L. Hubbard Clerk

Carl Freeman mentioned he will speaking at the Snow Library on his proposed traffic improvements.