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TOWN CLERKS OFFICE

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Renewable Energy Committee
February 15, 2011 - Minutes

A meeting of the Orleans Renewable Energy Committee was called to order at 4:03PM in the Skaket Meeting Room at the Orleans Town Hall by Chair Mary Jane Curran.

Present: Mary Jane Curran, Victor Noerdlinger, David Hubbard, Ken Rowell; and Paul Rooker, Finance Committee liaison.

Absent: Chris Galazzi, Jim Hungerford, Dick Philbrick, Sims McGrath, BOS liaison, and John Jannell, Planning liaison.

Present were Andrew Wade, Luke Hinkle, and Desire Hinkle from My Generation Energy in Brewster.

Chair Mary Jane Curran opened meeting and moved the talk by Luke Hinkle from My Generation Energy Brewster to the first slot of the agenda. Luke presented a slide show on the current status of My Generation Energy. He explained that several programs are available for homeowners, businesses, and investors. My Generation does solar panel installation that uses a system with one inverter per panel. This system will indicate if one panel is not meeting level of surrounding panels or is going bad. This is an advantage over a system that has one or two inverters per system which makes it hard to locate a panel that is not operating. Luke mentioned the estimated time for payback is 4-6 years under current rules and regulations. My Generation also has a company called Unutility. This is a program that will encourage businesses and individuals to invest in "solar gardens" where solar panels systems will be installed on buildings or ground mounted. All involved will share in the financial benefits of the solar panel installation. My Generation is attempting to locate such buildings to lease or parcels of land of 1-3 acres that can be used as a "Solar Garden."

Energy Reduction Plan - Mary Jane discussed with Sims McGrath and Ken Rowell the possibility of receiving support from the Town on writing the

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Energy Reduction Plan. Since John Jannell has moved to the Conservation Dept., it has reduced the time that John has to assist the Committee with the report. The Committee will continue to work with Sims on this issue.

Committee also discussed other components of the ERP. Mary Jane attended the workshop at Waquoit Bay Reserve on Guideline #4 which concerns the vehicles of the Town and their energy consumption. At this time, although the Town lacks an official vehicle policy, it is acting consistent with this requirement. Mary Jane talked with Seth Pickering regarding the availability of planning grants to assist the Town in preparing the ERP. There may be grants available in July. Committee also touched on Section #5, the Stretch Code that would propose new requirements for Building Construction in the future.

Orleans Resident Energy Survey - The previous Energy Committee had considered a survey of Town residents to inventory habits of trash disposal and energy usage. The current Committee is bringing the past survey up for review for consideration. The question is how to proceed in getting it to the residents and how to tabulate the data collected. Would Cape Light Compact have a survey already made for use? How to distribute surveys? Would the Cape Tech Schools have an interest? Discussion on how to construct the survey will continue in future meetings.

Council On Aging Solar Project - Ken Rowell has visited the site and will continue to take photos of the progress to document the project. The racks for holding the panels are being installed. There have been changes in the size and number of panels to be installed. There will be two arrays of panels with one inverter per array. The information given to Committee last meeting by John Hodgkinson may affect the financial package of the project. The reduction in electric rates will increase the time frame for payback.

Orleans Citizen's Forum - There is planned Orleans Citizen's Forum meeting at the Orleans Inn on March 19th, 9-11AM.

Mary Jane discussed the possible collaboration with the Orleans Elementary School for education purposes. In discussions with Debbie Fitton from CLC, it was mentioned that the parents at the school are very involved and may be willing to help with programs at the school. CLC has

trained several retired science teachers who might be able to help with such an initiative. Mary Jane and Chris will continue to explore this opportunity.

Mary Jane mentioned that there are upcoming Webinars on wind that members may be interested participating in.

No word from Steven Clarke on the discussion of wind turbines for Exit 12 cloverleaves.

Brewster's proposed wind turbine project is still undecided as many residents are speaking against it.

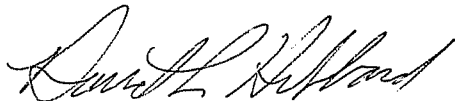
The Cape Cod Commission is considering a new regulation on the distances of wind turbines from occupied residents or businesses.

On March 1, 2011 there will be a Cape Wide meeting of energy committees at the Barnstable Senior Center on Route 28 from 3-5PM. One subject is the placement of renewable energy projects within historical districts.

Ken Rowell made a motion to cancel the planned March 1st Orleans REC meeting so we can attend the Barnstable meeting. Dave Hubbard seconded. Vote 4-0-0 to cancel.

March 15th is the next planned meeting of the Orleans Renewable Energy Committee.

Adjourned

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Dave Hubbard", written in dark ink.

Dave Hubbard, Clerk