



Renewable Energy Committee
March 15, 2011 - Minutes

ORLEANS TOWN CLERK

'11 MAY10 3:43PM

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Chair Mary Jane Curran called a meeting of the Orleans Renewable Energy Committee to order at 4:00PM in the Skaket Meeting Room at the Orleans Town Hall.

Present: Mary Jane Curran, Victor Noerdlinger, David Hubbard, Ken Rowell; Dick Philbrick, Chris Galazzi, Sims McGrath, BOS liaison, John Jannell, Conservation Dept, and Paul Rooker, Finance Committee liaison.

Absent: Jim Hungerford,

Present were Carl Freeman, interested public.

Chair Mary Jane Curran summarized the current status of the Energy Reduction Plan (ERP). She mentioned that she met with John Jannell and Ken Rowell to discuss the ERP and the Green Communities Act (GCA). Mary Jane stated that there has been no formal Orleans' application to become a Green Community but the Committee should continue the movement toward becoming one even if the town does not apply at this time.

John Jannell commented on Guideline #4 the vehicle aspect of the GCA. John mentioned that the State's data collection software; Insight is now accepting information on vehicle energy use. John will continue to monitor the Town's energy consumption data. He will provide charts and reports as needed to reach the 20% reduction from Base year 2008 to present. John said that the recent updates for the Insight software makes it easier to use Insight. Additional charts and graphs are now available to show energy consumption information. Sims McGrath mentioned that the Police Station is going to install insulation to protect the HVAC systems. The Town hopes to take advantage of any grant money that may become available to fund this project. The results of the installation should be tracked to see if energy consumption at the Police Station has improved with the insulation. The Committee discussed the possibility of having an audit of the Town Hall to check on the present efficiency of the building. Other discussion topics

included: what money may be available in the future for energy projects, how would adopting of the Stretch Code effect the Town Building Department and the contractors working in the Town? Mary Jane stressed that we need to stay on top of the process of becoming a Green Community even though we are not currently planning to apply for GCA designation at the present time.

Barnstable All Cape Energy Meeting - Mary Jane and Dave Hubbard attended

The meeting focused on the control by the Historic District of proposed renewable energy projects on the Cape. A Barnstable citizen described his challenges in applying for solar panels within the Historical District. Local Historical denied the proposal but the Regional Historical District allowed it. It was stressed that Cape Energy Committees strive to build consensus with the local and regional Historic District panels through education and communication. Liz Argo also presented a slideshow on the wind turbine project proposed in Dennis at ARC (the Aquaculture Lab) that is presently in litigation due to the opposition by the Regional Historic District. Dick Philbrick suggested that the current regulations imposed by the Historic District panels need to be reviewed and changed through the Legislative process.

There was also a presentation by Frank Deshaies on a new Cape Light Compact program that would enlist and train Senior Service Corp. to accompany the home owners who are having home energy audits done to explain the process and the possible improvements recommended by the audit company.

Dick commented on the possible siting of wind turbines in Cape Cod Bay at Billingsgate. A discussion ensued about the Ocean Management Zones available for such activity and uses. Sims McGrath who is on the panel working on these issues informed the Committee of the present regulations that would limit such turbines.

Energy survey- Mary Jane asked the Committee to review the draft survey compiled by our last Committee. Mary Jane has inquired of other Cape Committees and Cape Light Compact whether they have surveys to share. Debbie Fitton was going to check and get copies to Mary Jane.

Council on Aging Solar Project - John Jannell told the Committee that the solar panels are installed and the project could be completed next week.

John explained that he is glad the Town went with the Design/Build process as the project proceeded well. John mentioned that it is a 12.7KW system with a five-year warrantee. Since project came in under costs, John will inquire about securing an operations and maintenance contract and warrantee extension using the money remaining in the budget. The Committee should look at methods to make this project an educational one for the citizens of Orleans. We will plan a press release and "a commissioning event" in early spring to celebrate this installation.

Landfill Solar arrays - John J. summarized the current status of the Cape and Vineyard Electric Cooperative (CVEC), Phase 1 project to install solar panels on existing capped landfills. There was a tour of the proposed sites and many were disqualified as not being suitable. John mentioned that he had someone take a look at Orleans landfill and was told that because of the rounded nature of the landfill, it is not really suitable for a solar installation. John will keep track of the next round of CVEC funding for solar installations. A discussion on other possible sites within the Town developed. It centered on the watershed/water treatment plant, the right-of-way of power lines through the watershed property, roofs of buildings. John J. will look via aerial photos to inventory possible sites.

There will be an opportunity to display an exhibit at the Snow Library during the month of October. Committee will have to determine what information, photos, etc we want to put up.

There will be an Orleans Citizen Forum held on March 19, 2011 at the Orleans Inn in Orleans. Mary Jane will make presentation and ask the Forum to co-sponsor a public event that focused on the current opportunities for solar residential installations. Time posted is 9-11AM.

There will be a March 22, 2011 presentation by My Generation Energy in Chatham at the Eldridge Library that will focus on "Solar Options" for residential projects. Time posted is 7-8PM.

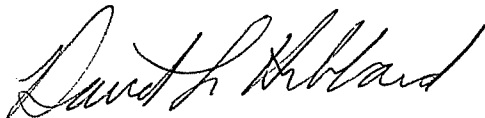
Mary Jane commented that the Committee will approach the Orleans Elementary School with the help of Debbie Fitton CLC, to promote renewable energy educational programs.

John Jannell is going to a Cape and Vineyard Electric Cooperative meeting on Thursday, March 17. Many topics will be covered including the Brewster Wind Project; Dept. of Public Utilities and net metering; landfill projects; budget, and other items.

Minutes of 2-15-11 were approved after Ken Rowell made changes to the draft minutes. Vote was 5-0-0

There was no correspondence.

Adjourned at 6:02PM

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "David L. Hubbard".

David L. Hubbard, clerk