



Renewable Energy Committee
April 5, 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 4:03PM in the Skaket Meeting Room at the Orleans Town Hall.

Present: Mary Jane Curran, Victor Noerdlinger, David Hubbard, Ken Rowell; Dick Philbrick, Chris Galazzi, Jim Hungerford.

Absent: John Jannell, Conservation Dept.; Sims McGrath, BOS liaison; and Paul Rooker, Finance Com. liaison.

Mary Jane Curran began the meeting by commenting on goals for outreach and education opportunities by the Committee in the Town. Mary Jane had attended the Orleans Citizens Forum(OCF) on March 19th and had given a short presentation on solar panels and solar as an alternative energy source. Good session and a decent turnout. On April 12, there will be an Orleans Citizens Forum discussion on the downtown Orleans village center and the taking of suggestions on how to proceed to improve it. There could be another Forum presented which would be a candidates nights for the upcoming election in May.

Ken Rowell went to the meeting in Chatham. About 40 attended the meeting and Luke Hinkle of My Generation spoke on solar as an alternative energy.

Probability will not be able to hold a Forum with the OCF. Can the Renewable Energy Committee sponsor one? What date and where would one be held?

Discussion on a possible commissioning event for the solar panel array at the Council On Aging(COA). Possibly looking at a May or June affair. Need to get some publicity. Ken R. suggested having the Board of Selectman(BOS) hold one of their regular meetings at the COA to coincide with the commissioning event. Have a band play? Choir from a school?

It was disclosed that the panels on the COA were removed and replaced. The wrong panels were put in place. The panels did not match the inverters.

Energy Surveys - Mary Jane has been trying to get other examples of surveys to compare to the survey the REC has. Will continue to look for others.

Snow Library exhibit is on target. Committee needs to get photos and information on alternative energy to display in the exhibit.

Mary Jane has discussed energy education opportunities at Orleans Elementary School with Debbie Fitton of the Cape Energy Committees. The opportunity is there to work with the school and the teachers on projects to education the students on energy sources.

The Cape and Vineyard Cooperative CVEC meeting on March 17 was attended by John Jannell. Nothing to report . Discussion on Cape Light Compact and CVEC projects ensued. Chris G. spoke on Brewster's wind turbine still having support with the BOS. What the final outcome will be is still up in question. Brewster will go through the process.

Jim H. mentioned that technology needs to get into the process with getting the information needed to make decisions and try to deter some of the set backs by wind turbines. The opponents have created controversy over aspects of wind energy and those problems need to be researched. Dick P. commented that real discussions need to be made about the set backs and the problems encountered with noise, set backs, etc. Chris G. brought up the subject of smaller turbines. This is an area where CVEC has yet to consider. CVEC is only interested in the largest turbines which are causing the major controversies among the citizens next to proposed sites. Chris mentioned a 50KW costs about \$600,000 to build and even if it does not supply the power that a large turbine supplies, it may introduce the public to the likable side of turbines. There was much discussion on turbine size, set backs, locations, and visibility. The proposed turbine in the Rt. 6 cloverleaf was brought up again. Should another letter to the State on the cloverleaf be sent? Other items discussed were the third party ownership model. Companies are looking for sites. Ken R. also brought up the proposal that the town of Orleans should look at smaller turbines for the watershed project.

Chris discussed the solar project being proposed by Mashpee. Large solar panel array which will be originally privately owned by then move to the town after 10 years. It is a 334 KW project. CVEC has considered three projects on capped landfills. These are in response to the State's Phase 1 Initiative for alternative energy.

Other - Truro has endorsed the "Stretch Code" for future building in Truro and working toward becoming a "Green Community". Wellfleet voted down the "Stretch Code"

Chris G. was going to look into getting information costs associated with solar projects similar to Mashpee.

Committee considered what other sites may be available for siting solar panels or even small turbines. The Putman Property in back of the Orleans Court Building and the Motel by Nauset Beach became areas that may be looked into.

Mary Jane C. and Ken R, will get together with John Jannell on sites.

Jim H. - What research is being done on set backs by the State or private concerns?

Minutes of 3-15 were amended and voted to be approved by 5-0-0 vote.

Mary Jane handed out info on the Mashpee project.

Adjourned at 5:39PM

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

David L. Hubbard, Clerk