

## Renewable Energy Committee June 21, 2011 - Minutes

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.

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ORLEANS TOWN CLERK

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

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

COA Commissioning Event - Review Mary Jane Curran opened the meeting with very positive comments about the Solar installation kick-off event held yesterday at the Orleans Council on Aging (COA) The event was well attended along with three members from prior Renewable Energy Committees (Bob McCoy, Bud Kolchinsky and Liz Argo) and five members of the current committee (Mary Jane Curran, Ken Rowell, Chris Galazzi, Victor Noerdlinger and Dave Hubbard). Also in attendance were two members of the Board of Selectmen (Dave Dunford and Sims McGrath) along with John Jannell liaison to the REWPC and Ron Collins who was the Project Manager for the solar installation.

2. Sponsoring a "solar informational event"

Mary Jane led a discussion regarding the Committee's plans to sponsor a solar informational/educational event in the town perhaps at the Snow Library to be scheduled later this summer or early fall. Ken Rowell suggested that the committee might also consider asking Don Bein and the Cape Cod Regional Tech students involved in the schools renewable energy center to present at a meeting in conjunction with our committee. Such a meeting could be held either in Orleans or at the school's

renewable energy training center. The meeting would be designed to help educate/inform our citizens of the various options at their disposal to generate their own local renewable energy.

Mary Jane also noted that Liz Smith indicated that the COA would host a meeting on July 18, 2011 at 1:00PM where Luke Hinkle and Andrew Wade of My Generation Energy would present and lead a discussion on Solar Options for citizens.

3. Energy Survey

Mary Jane indicated that she is still waiting to here from Joyce Flynn of the Yarmouth Energy Committee regarding their template for an energy survey.

4. Orleans Elementary School/Deb Fitton
Mary Jane is working with Deb to get a program going at the Orleans
Elementary School this fall - more on that topic at the next meeting.

## **Old Business**

Chris Galazzi will speak today with Solbridge regarding an update on possible options for municipal solar for Orleans where solar could be installed either in town or anywhere within the Nstar service area. The benefits of that energy production would go to the Town of Orleans. One of the in-town installation considerations might be in the watershed where the energy being produced would be applied to the energy load of the Water Department.

Chris also plans to follow up with Borego Solar Finance and Engineering Company regarding a proposal on fully financed solar fields that they design and which would provide Orleans with the benefits of renewable energy. Initially it would be owned and operated by Borego but would become property of Orleans at a specified future date - more detail on this discussion at the next meeting.

Mary Jane spoke briefly about the upcoming 2nd round of CVEC funding - she plans to attend a meeting on this subject at the town hall on June 23rd at 11:00AM.

Ken moved that a discussion and approval vote on the meeting minutes of June 7, 2011 be postponed until the July 5th meeting as the meeting minutes were not available to all members of the committee prior to today's meeting. The motion was seconded by Victor. Vote - 6-0-0.

## **Announcements**

Mary Jane announced that Ken Rowell's term will expire at the end June 2011 and that he has chosen not to extend for an additional term.

Adjourned at 5:30PM

Ken Rowell, Vice Chair filling in for Dave Hubbard.