

Renewable Energy Committee November 8, 2012 - Minutes

Chair Jim Hungerford called the meeting of November 8, 2012 of the Orleans Renewable Energy Committee to order at 4:03PM in the Skaket Meeting Room at the Orleans Town Hall. '13 FEB 28 3:51PM
ORLEANS TOWN CLERK'

COMORE

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Present: Jim Hungerford, Dave Hubbard, David Abel, Victor Noerdlinger, and Dick Philbrick; Paul Rooker, Finance Com. liaison.

Absent: Chris Galazzi.

Liaisons John Jannell, Conservation Finance; and Sims McGrath, Board of Selectmen.

Also present was Hank Schumacher, interested public.

Chair Jim Hungerford opened the meeting and gave Hank Schumacher a brief history of the committee including the project on the wind turbine in the watershed and the present proposed solar projects at the landfill and in the watershed. Jim handed out copies of an article in the Cape Codder which related to the problems solar projects are having connecting to the grid because of stalling/reviewing of the requirements of the connecting process from Nstar. Much frustration by projects of solar arrays over the time required by Nstar to make the electrical hookups to the grid. The Harwich project of the phase 1 solar array by CVEC has yet to be connected.

Jim also informed committee that there is a report by the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management that has reviewed locations for possible locations of future wind turbine development. Large areas south of Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket were delineated as areas of possible locations. Dick Philbrick thought the Cape Cod Bay would be an excellent location because of the depth and wind velocities which blow across it. Billingsgate shoal is very shallow and could be a prime location. There are presently

many aquaculture grants and a fishing fleet that operate along the shores of Cape Cod Bay.

Old Business; Jim told committee that he had met with John Jannell and received an email from Ron Collins. Jim sent to me two emails, one from Ron Collins of CVEC and the other from a Denise Atwood who owns the Red Pheasant in Dennis. The emails gave an account of the time frames and other problems Orleans will encounter along the route for the solar projects at the landfill and the watershed. Jim is going to pursue more information from a Greg Rounesville on the Dennis project.

Discussion turned to the solar projects in Orleans. The landfill and the watershed have different requirements for permitting and will require different time frames for completion. They are adjacent to each other and a question arose as to if they could some how become one.

Much discussion occurred about the relationship between CVEC and Nstar on the connecting process. Why is there the time frame presently required for a solar array to be connected to the grid?

The tour of the watershed is scheduled for Friday at 10:00AM. Meet at the Town Hall if going. It will be of the proposed site on the watershed with a view of the landfill at the end. Todd Bunzick will conduct the tour.

Minutes of the October 25, 2012 meeting were approved by 5-0-0 vote.

Adjourned at 5:06.

David L. Hubbard, clerk