

Minutes of the Energy Task Force

June 15, 2011

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Geoff Cook called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

In attendance: Geoff Cook, George Keithan, Terry Doyle, Catherine Iino (ex officio), Sue Gumbart, Harsh Luthra, Deborah Sodegren, David Schmitt

Absent: William Leahy

2. REVIEW AND APPROVE MEETING MINUTES FROM 5/18/2011 KCETF MEETING Terry approved. George seconded. All Approved

3. UPDATE MEMBERS ON STATUS OF REGIONAL ENERGY TASK FORCE EFFORTS

- a. Need volunteer(s) to inventory K'Worth outdoor lighting –We decided to opt out of the outdoor lighting part of this effort. We have too few lights to worry about and the expenditures are minimal.
- b. CL&P making mod's to Xfr Station pwr delivery
- c. Draft Audit report from S1 still thin – re: T. Hall recommendations

Discussed SourceOne's report. George had reviewed some of the energy audit information and found that the report missed quite a few areas of concern. For example, the insulation in Town Hall, building envelopes, transfer station, library (boiler set up too high), all were not evaluated properly. This is cause for concern with regard to other facilities that were also reviewed. George will summarize some of the more blatant errors that were missed and develop a list that will be sent around to task force members for review. Cathy will send a letter to the Regional Task Force expressing dissatisfaction with the report.

4. QUICK REVIEW OF THE RECENTLY PASSED CP1 LEGISLATION (Bill NUMBER 1243) & HOW IT DIRECTLY BENEFITS OUR TOWN – While the bill is good, it doesn't spell out how many of these programs will actually be executed and what the time frame will be. One thing it does allow is that towns will now have the ability to exempt class 1 renewable energy source projects from the payment of building permit fees imposed by the municipality.

5. DISCUSSION:

- a. THE DCS SOLAR PROGRAM VS. THE RECENTLY ANNOUNCED U.S. DoE SOLAR PROGRAM FOR MUNI'S – Harsh will make sure we all have access to the webinar to review before next meeting. Cathy will try to reach Bob Oberle to get more information and will let us know what she finds out.

6. NEW BUSINESS: DISCUSSION OF ADDT'L RECOMMENDATIONS HARSH WOULD LIKE TO SEE KETF BECOME INVOLVED WITH, SPECIFICALLY:

- a. Energy smart vending machines – mostly at school, maybe one at firehouse. Generally thought it was an interesting idea but not one of our areas of focus
- b. Changing all lights to LED's when help of utility in schools and town buildings – Harsh will research whether or not this may be covered by a CL&P program.
- c. Changing garbage area equipment to solar powered compactors -
- d. Subsidizing the HES (home energy audits) checkup – use as an incentive. Cathy to investigate whether or not we can use grant money toward this.
- e. Installing electric charging stations – Harsh will check to see if we can get one for free or nearly free we may have an interest in installing near library.
- f. Removing permitting fees for renewables (in new bill)

g. Making permitting online (Clinton does it) – not ready for yet. Harsh will find out what this new \$12 million dollar permitting grant will cover.

7. DISCUSS ANY OTHER OLD BUSINESS AS WELL AS ANY NEW BUSINESS BROUGHT FORTH

a. Meeting with school Superintendant - Leahy said he would try to talk to the new Superintendant to start discussions on improving energy efficiency throughout the schools. The High School for example is not up to par.

Geoff to write a letter of support for the STEAP grant (small town economic assistance program).

Geoff will call Sue Cornell for article in Patch.com about the Energy Task Force. We will work to get something into the Krier for Sept. issue regarding the new town hall.

8. ADJOURNMENT - Geoff moved to adjourn Dave seconded.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50.