



## **Minutes of the Energy Task Force**

**MEETING: March 21, 2012**

Geoff Cook, Cathy Iino, George Keithan, Sue Gumbart, Bill Leahy, Terry Doyle, Harsh Luthra, Jonathan Norton, Peter Brandon **Absent:** John Byrne, Deb Sodergren,

### **1. CALL TO ORDER 7:00**

### **2. REVIEWED MEETING MINUTES FROM 01/18/2012 SPECIAL KETF MEETING.**

Terry moved to approve minutes, George seconded. All in favor, minutes approved.

### **3. NEW BUSINESS:**

**A.** New KETF member, Jonathan Norton was introduced.

**B.** Diane McCarthy-Becury, CL&P Program Administrator for the Clean Energy Communities program. came and presented program highlights from their 2012 Clean Energy Communities Program.

Diane's group is anxious to help us in all aspects of spreading the word about increasing energy efficiency in homes, businesses and municipal buildings in Killingworth. She mentioned that they will coordinate (and help pay for) us to do townwide mailings and plan events and meet with town or school officials to get them involved with their programs.

There is a point system in place that will enable the towns to get credit for people taking part in doing an energy audit, redeeming energy star rebates, and for town and municipal building participation. For every 100 points our town can receive a \$5,000 grant to further promote energy conservation in Killingworth. We mentioned the energy audit/increased energy efficiency budget proposal that the task force compiled and Geoff and George submitted to the First Selectmen of the Town last month. Diane said she would check to see how many points the town currently has to see how much further we need to go to get our first grant - she will let Geoff or Cathy know our standing.

Other ideas that Diane mentioned were to promote events such as "conservation challenges" like a light bulb exchange. Killingworth would get points just for hosting these types of events and Diane mentioned that her group would help us plan and get involved to make them a success. It was mentioned that this might appeal to involve a local business like True Value, or perhaps something we can do at the chili fest type event. It was also mentioned that we may want to participate in the Saturday before Mother's Day activity at the transfer station. Terry said that the Lions may share some of their tent with us so we can be there with pamphlets and to discuss ways to increase energy efficiency in homes.

It was also brought up that Home Energy Audit vendors might well want to partner with us or attend these events to better explain the benefits to homeowners. They could perhaps show off their blower door test. In addition, Diane mentioned that if the Town chooses to select a couple of vendors to work closely with, we could persuade them to donate some of their fee (the \$75 dollars collected from the homeowner to conduct the audit) on a sliding scale basis to help again encourage town wide participation in doing these audits.

Diane mentioned that Corrine from CL&P, our town contact person, may want to get involved as well. Apparently CL&P is anxious to help get these programs off and running and would be glad to get involved with us in planning ways to reach out to town residents.

Lastly, Diane mentioned that on April 3 there will be a free event for municipalities to learn more about these programs. Bill Leahy will be speaking at the event. Geoff and I are planning to attend. Peter Brandon, as the representative for students at RSD17, may also try to come if we can get him a spot. Attendance is restricted to 200 and they have suggested they only want one or two individuals from a town to participate, but Geoff will see what he can do to submit another application.

**C.** Review the status of the Audit Report we all collaborated on and the results of the presentation George and I made to the Board of Selectman in late Feb. - Currently audit is with the Town Board of Finance. Cathy believes that it was well received and mentioned, for example, that all of the items relating to the State Troopers office will be resolved. We will most likely see that extra funds will be added to the budget to cover some of the projects we suggested take place in various buildings.

**D.** Provide an update on the April 3rd workshop sponsored by the CT Conf of Municipalities (Leading By Example: New Energy Opportunities for Municipalities. (More info here >> [www.ccm-ct.org](http://www.ccm-ct.org)) - see about

**E.** Harsh to discuss his plan for an Earth Day event at Parmalee – i.e., his plan, volunteers from our group, etc.

**F. Next steps – re: RSD-17 engagement process** - Geoff will call Mike DeStefano to try and set up a meeting with him as a first step. It was also discussed that Peter will talk to his advisor for his group, Ms. Ferrar to bring her up to speed. Lastly, Diane mentioned that there are some continuing education workshops planned for teachers this summer to help educate them about energy efficiency so they can in turn use this information in their curriculum. These workshops are free to teachers. Bill Leahy's group may be doing the grades 9-12 continuing education program. Diane said she would be glad to work with us or if we wanted, directly communicate with RSD17 about these programs.

**4. OLD BUSINESS** - No old business will be discussed

**5. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:45 PM**

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Gumbart

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Secretary – Killingworth Clean Energy Task Force