

Town of Derry, NH

Energy & Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

November 17, 2014

Attendees: Maureen Reno, Tom Morini, Marc Flattes, Chris Cox, Jim Ricker, Holly Alabachan, Tom Cardon and guest Anthony Marciano

1. Call to Order – Maureen Reno
 - a. Motion to accept minutes of October 20, 2014 meeting by Marc Flattes, seconded by Chris Cox. Approved unanimously.
2. Chairman's Report
 - a. Maureen summarized the topics that were covered at the Energy Savings for the home Seminars. The second workshop, which was an official Button Up event, had much better attendance due in part to its time slot of Wednesday evening. Some discussion about the difficulty in marketing for these events. Saturday AM is not a real good time. Too many competing events and personal needs. Marc inquires about the content and delivery of the two different presenters. Andrew Duncan of Button UP, seemed to have a clearer focus on residential bill impacts. Our guest, Anthony Marciano, asked how we could drive better attendance to these events. Tom Morini feels that social media is the way to go. Holly suggests that we periodically post one energy saving tip at a time on the committee Facebook page. Jim Ricker expresses concern that this may seem too much like a sales pitch and the need to have the correct approach. Holly also suggests we bring more proactive ideas to the seminar too, like a segment on wood stoves, etc. Anthony also likes the "Ask the expert" idea.
3. Old Business
 - a. LED Streetlight Project: Chris Cox has seen about 5 streetlights downtown in need of replacement, but the new LED fixtures have not been installed yet. The new Lights will not require the bottom globes. Additionally there will be some flexibility in the lumen level of individual lights. This phase is targeted for completion prior to the Holiday parade in late November.
 - b. Solar on Landfill Project RFP: Maureen opens the discussion and reviews the chain of events to date. Mike Fowler has crafted an RFP and requested that the committee review and provide feedback before December. Jim Ricker mentions that he likes the content of the RFP. Marc, however, is concerned that Craig S. Durrett, Environmental Coordinator of the Derry Public Works Department, may be overwhelmed with requests to visit the landfill site and suggests that the RTP state a specific date for tours. Lengthy discussion about the project follows exploring the chronology of various aspects of this project in much greater detail. All members participate. Tom Cardon mentions that he likes the idea of using this Landfill PV project as a way for the town to "get our feet wet" relative to renewable energy projects. Holly expresses concern that the power may not go directly to the town and benefit residents because

it would not be a rooftop system. Marc and Maureen explain that the power would go back into the grid and displace power from nearby carbon emitting sources thereby reducing carbon emissions for the region that includes Derry. Marc moves that we approve the RFP as is, based on Mike's time table and the fact that most members have reviewed the RFP and see no major concerns in the content. Jim Ricker seconds. Holly abstains from voting. The Committee approves the RFP: 5-0-1.

- c. SNHPC planning Committee: Derry and Candia were chosen as the two towns that the SNHPC would help with developing building codes and permitting that would better accommodate renewable energy sources. The Town is asking the EEAC for feedback. Maureen will circulate the New Hampshire Office of Energy and Planning (NHOEP) presentation and model rules when they become available in January. Meanwhile the EEAC needs more clarity on exactly what is being asked of it. There was some discussion about fees to do solar projects in the Town. A subcommittee is created and Maureen, Tom Cardon, and Chris Cox volunteer to monitor NHOEP developments and to continue to work with the SNHPC.

4. New Business

- a. New Transfer Station Project: Maureen opens with discussion about the new Transfer Station proposal review. The EEAC votes in approval to form a Sub Committee and Holly, Marc, and Jim volunteer. We will need to provide feedback within the next two weeks regarding the winning bidder's proposal. Maureen asks for a list of recommendations and considerations to be ready for the next meeting. Maureen will ask the Go Green Committee to craft their own letter to the Town.
- b. Junior Solar Sprint: Long range planning should be happening now. Tom Morini to work more closely with Tom Minnon to provide higher levels of transparency to the logistics and personal contacts, that make this event so successful and grow annually.
- c. Tom Cardon makes comments about the recent successes of the EEAC committee and specifically recognizes Maureen Reno's role in driving the committee toward our goals.
- d. Chris Cox motions to adjourn. Marc Flattes seconds.