

DORSET ENERGY COMMITTEE

Minutes of June 14, 2010 Meeting (Hand Motors Conference Room)

PRESENT: Jim Hand, Doug Colson, Alex Bornstein, Jim Salsgiver, Ellen Maloney, Rob Gaiotti

ENERGY AND WATER RESOURCES GROUP:

Alex Bornstein reported that Principal Jim Merryman and custodian Derek Chalmers of the Dorset School are anxious to get started with wind measurements at the School. A suitable location was found for placement of the anemometer and solar evaluation materials. (The loan of an anemometer and solar evaluation materials were procured through the Energy Committee at no cost.) A memory card will store a year's worth of data. We are hoping that Mrs. McGann (who will be teaching middle-school science) can incorporate the data readings and wind study into the science curriculum. All information will be site specific. In addition, the idea was raised of setting up an information board as an education tool for the entire student body. There is a dual purpose to this project: (1) to educate the students about alternative sources of energy; and (2) to determine whether there may be cost savings available to the school through the use of wind or solar or both.

Pete and Vicky Haskins have volunteered the use of their equipment to install the anemometer.

Tony will send further information to the committee by e-mail.

SOLID WASTE/RECYCLING:

The signage at the East Dorset Transfer Station has still not been updated.

Doug Colson, Rob Gaiotti and Ellen Maloney attended a meeting of representatives from the four "Consortium" towns which are Dorset, Manchester, Arlington and Sandgate. Each of the Towns sent representative, with the exception of Manchester. The Meeting was held at the BCRC conference room with Rex Burke and Lissa Stark assisting. Based on requests made by the towns, Lissa Stark prepared a letter to Casella suggesting that the new contract address certain identified issues. The letter has been circulated for approval. Doug Colson will contact Lissa Stark asking that the letter be sent out, as is, ASAP since the old contract will expire at the end of September.

Doug Colson will also seek information on how other towns' solid waste and recycling contracts are handled, especially any Towns that may be in a similar situation to ours. (Some towns own their own transfer station.) It was noted that some Town's waste disposal contracts may not be public information. (This raises the question as to whether our Town's agreements with Casella are public information?)

The net cost to the Town of Dorset for recycling services was about \$13,000 last year, paid to Casella for use of its transfer station for recycling and to transport the recycled materials to Rutland.

DORSET SCHOOL:

The wind and solar study is discussed above.

An electronics recycling fundraiser organized by Phyllis Tate was welcomed by the community and quite successful. Outdated monitors, computers, cell phones, etc. were brought to the school which, in cooperation with Digital Wish of Arlington and Goodpoint Recycling of Middlebury, will be sold, stripped and reused. Plans for another such event are in the works for this fall. People were reportedly really grateful to get the items out of their basements.

Jim Hand has spoken with Mrs. Tate and he will provide us with details and figures for the recycling event.

NO IDLING:

Bill Laberge is still working with the Dorset Union Store.

FIRE DISTRICTS:

The Clean Energy Development fund has granted the two fire districts a total of \$37,052 for weatherization and a new heating unit (for East Dorset). Rob Gaiotti will be point person for the Prudential Committees, as they will be responsible for reporting and meeting the grant requirements. The Energy Committee will assist with energy related matters if asked, and continues to offer any assistance wanted on the community education component of the grant.

FUTURE PLANS/POSSIBLE PROJECTS:

The Committee began development of a plan to offer energy related assistance to nonprofits located in Dorset. We resolved to contact four for starters. They will be the Dorset Library, The Dorset Nursing Association, The Dorset Historical Society and the Wilson House. They will be contacted by Alex Bornstein, Doug Colson, Jim Salsgiver, and Ellen Maloney, respectively. We will use the Vermont Community Energy Mobilization model by using the "home energy visit" and worksheet format.

A write-up on the Energy Committee is needed for the next edition of the Dorset Newsletter.

Respectfully, Ellen Maloney

NEXT DORSET ENERGY COMMITTEE MEETING WILL BE JULY 12, 2010 AT THE SPIRAL PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM AT 8:30 am.