

DORSET ENERGY COMMITTEE

Minutes of May 3, 2010 Meeting

PRESENT: Tony Panetta, Jim Hand, Jim Salsgiver, Doug Colson, Rob Gaiotti, Ellen Maloney

ENERGY AND WATER RESOURCES:

1. Tony Panetta reported that a trip has been planned to see the Bennington Micro-Hydro on Friday May 7 at 3pm. Contact Tony Panetta to sign up. The group will meet at the Hand Motors parking lot.
2. Jim Salsgiver will circulate the RENEWABLE ENERGY ATLAS now available through VNRC in a more user friendly form if that is possible. (Note: the link was sent to those who were at the Meeting & the Energy and Water Resources Group. Other interested parties – contact Jim Salsgiver.)
3. At the next meeting, Tony Panetta and Alex Bornstein will present an overview of the energy resources inventory that they have gathered to date. It will be used for future town plan purposes. Perhaps the Renewable Energy Atlas will help?

SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING:

1. New signs are not up yet for the new recycling categories at the Transfer Station. Ellen Maloney will contact Dale Baker.
2. Jim Hand, as town energy coordinator, reported to the Select Board on the Energy Committee's interest in participating in the next contract round with Casella on the Solid Waste Management Agreement. The Select Board was supportive of this idea. Ellen Maloney and Doug Colson will explore next steps. Rob Gaiotti will be the point person. Lissa Stark, the BCRC point person for the Consortium of towns, is on maternity leave. She has told Rob that she will get the participating towns together as soon as she can, perhaps in June. (It appears that there are four consortium towns: Arlington, Dorset, Manchester and Sandgate.)
3. Regarding the inclusion of composting services in the contract, we need to learn more about Casella's history/experience with composting in other locations.

FIRE DISTRICTS:

The Public Serving Institutions grant application was reviewed and underwent a final edit. Rob Gaiotti did a remarkable job. He will take it to the Prudential Committee Chairs for signature and get it submitted to meet the May 6 deadline. Bob Hartwell has been particularly helpful with communications with CEDF.

NO IDLING CAMPAIGN:

We await word on the status of the Dorset Union Store sign. Do they need a volunteer to put the sign up? Doug will pursue status of Post Office sign.

SELECT BOARD COMMUNICATIONS:

Jim Hand, as Energy Coordinator, gave the quarterly report to the Select Board at the April meeting. Doug Colson assisted.

DORSET SCHOOL:

Jim Salsgiver reported on the status of school consolidation discussions. He noted that the Dorset School Board is hoping to find ways to provide useful information on this issue, and initiate a dialogue with, all interested Dorset homeowners.

OTHER:

- Jim Hand reported that 15 more Dorset homes received "energy visits" which involve an informal energy assessment, some advice, and free materials supplied by Efficiency Vermont.

- Tony Panetta suggested that a micro-hydro generator could be used to power a cell tower for Dorset.

- We discussed our mission as possibly including assistance to Dorset non-profits such as the Dorset Nursing Association, Wilson House, the Dorset Library, Theater, Historical Society, etc. This will be discussed further.

Respectfully, Ellen Maloney

NEXT DORSET ENERGY COMMITTEE MEETING WILL BE JUNE 7, 2010 AT THE SPIRAL PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM AT 8:30 am.