

BARNSTABLE RENEWABLE ENERGY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Date: Wednesday, May 5, 2010

Time: 5:30 P.M.

Place: Town Hall, Selectmen's Conference Room, 367 Main Street, Hyannis, MA

In attendance: Members: Douglas Hempel, Tony Johnson, Jan Rapp, Robert Franey, Vanessa Lavoie, Alison Alessi, Amanda Converse, and Jim Ruberti

Members absent: Jeffrey Pimental

Staff: Richard Elrick, Energy Coordinator and David Anthony, Chief Procurement Officer and Schools' Energy Manager

Meeting Minutes

- 1. Minutes:** Commission's first meeting-no minutes to approve
- 2. Member introductions:** Members introduced themselves and explained why they chose to serve on the REC.
- 3. Election of officers:** Postponed until next meeting. The Energy Coordinator agreed to Chair the meetings until officers are elected.

The Commission reviewed the town council charge and then had discussion about a possible meeting schedule.

Discussion on the need for televising the meetings which impacts the time when the room was available. Question as to requirement for televising meetings and are there other locations? Could every other meeting be on TV?

The idea of getting the Commission's message out using local access is an important part of the public outreach element of the commission.

Frequency of the meetings was discussed. Idea of one per month in the beginning would lead to long meetings to cover the educational efforts needed to get everyone up to speed. Suggestion made to have more regular meetings in the start up months to keep momentum, with a more relaxed schedule once the commission is established.

4. Presentation by Energy Coordinator: Richard Elrick described his role as Energy Coordinator and gave a historic overview of the Town's efforts to date.

5. Presentation by Schools' Energy Manager, David Anthony: David Anthony reported on the progress of the school departments energy efforts to date. Commencing in 2003, the energy consumption has been reduced through school building closures, on site renewable and co-gen devices, as well as ongoing energy efficiency projects.

6. Discussion of Commission priorities and work plan: A general discussion of topics was commenced including the role of the Cape Light Compact in the Commission's efforts. A real desire to not "reinvent the wheel" but there was noted lack of full understanding of what the CLC did.

It was agreed that the Commission should focus its attention on the residential and business/commercial sectors as opposed to the municipal sector, as there is a municipal “green team” that is charged with doing much of the energy efficiency work for the town’s buildings and facilities. The Commission also agreed that one of their primary tasks would be to work to educate the public about the issues and value of energy efficiency and conservation.

It was recommended that the CLC be approached to come do a presentation of what programs they have, what resources they can provide and how best to use their experience in this area.

David Anthony was asked to approach the CLC to see what kind of presentations would be available and when they could accommodate the commissions request for a presentation.

The discussion as to what the commission could be expected to produce or accomplish in the short run and in the long run resulted in the idea of a green open house potentially in the October 2010 time frame. The idea of highlighting success stories in Barnstable was made – Country garden turbines, school co-gen, green houses in the villages (Centerville is building a LEED certified house)

7. Doug Hempel and other members updated the Commission on a recent South Shore Renewable Energy Workshop on wind held recently in Hingham.

8. Public Comment: No one from the public was present.

9. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 6:55 PM.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 19, at 5:30 P.M. at Town Hall, Selectmen’s Conference Room, 367 Main Street, Hyannis, MA.

Respectfully submitted,

R. Elrick, Energy Coordinator