

## **Sustainable Energy Committee Minutes – February 3, 2012**

Juliani Room - Town Hall

### **Committee Members Present:**

Christopher Ketchen, Chair  
Richard Joyce  
Suzy Littlefield  
Scott Bender  
Robert Cooper  
Ellen Korpi  
Molly Fairchild, Sustainable Energy Coordinator  
**Absent:** Beth DeSombre

**Citizens' Speak:** no one spoke

**Minutes:** January 20, 2012 approved

Mr. Ketchen reported that we will be preparing the SEC Report for TM next week.

### **Facilities Maintenance Proposal for Energy Manager:**

Joe McDonough, Director of Facilities reported on the proposed consolidation of the facilities maintenance departments for the Schools and Town buildings. This would include energy management, allow for more in-house maintenance instead of using consultants, and bulk purchase of supplies. Previously, the consolidated Facilities Department was rolled out too quickly, without the management structure to support a bigger combined facilities department. This will be voted on by Town Meeting this spring, and if approved would start July 1, 2012.

Joe McDonough and Joe Murray put together an organizational chart for the Consolidated Facilities Maintenance Department. Mr. McDonough indicated that he had experience with an Energy Manager when he worked for Norwood. He indicated that the energy manager position will pay for itself. The Energy Manager will have a background in Facilities, electric lighting, and performance contracts. He also suggested that the Energy Manager would also have a role as an ex-officio member of the Sustainable Energy Committee.

Mr. McDonough described the technology available for energy and facilities management, including the Metasys System, Energy Star Portfolio Manager, and School Dude - a maintenance order system. Energy costs are 25-30% of the maintenance budget.

Ms. Korpi mentioned the importance of the feedback loop of a monthly energy report for each building that the MLP and the SEC have developed. Mr. Ketchen agreed to establish the reporting and accountability process.

Mr. Murray expressed that it is great that the Town is committed to reducing its carbon footprint. It has helped to be able to say this when repair work is contracted to encourage improved efficiency, as well. Mr. Murray also reported that Mike Groh, the building manager at the library, and he took a building operators training course which included using the Energy Star Portfolio Manager software, to compare energy use of like kind buildings. Mr. Murray also shared that he is exploring the idea of having a student from Mass Maritime, do a pump survey of our buildings, as a coop opportunity, from June to July 31<sup>st</sup>.

Mr. Ketchen stated that lighting is a big energy user and the behavioral impact on lighting. There is still low hanging fruit on lighting, in most of our Town buildings.

Mr. Joyce reported that at the Moving Planet Sustainable EXPO at the MLP in October, we were introduced to the Energy-mizer technology, which we have now installed in the Warren Recreation Building as a pilot. It is expected to provide 10-12% reduction in electric use. It cleans up the power supply to the building, for gained efficiency. Two units were installed at Warren, Larger buildings would need more. A 12% reduction would provide a payback within two years.

Mr. Ketchen requested that the committee send comment to him by a week from Tuesday (February 14<sup>th</sup>) to get a proposal in front of the committee. This is a concrete example of synergies between groups. Challenge is taking great ideas and implementing them. The Energy Manager will help get this done.

**Green Power Community Campaign:** (the GPC Leadership team joined the SEC for the remainder of the meeting) Ms. Korpi reported that the effort to produce the logo and tag-line "POWER TO CHOOSE" were well worth it. A Google calendar has also been set up as a live calendar for everyone to use for the Campaign.

Mr. Prideaux reported that the door-to-door Pilot is tomorrow afternoon, with five people covering 125 houses in 90 minutes, with clipboards and stickers, there is a script that individuals will bend to fit. There are maps and direction, and metrics for recording the response, and identifying potential volunteers. An email to the neighborhood was already sent, and will send a reminder later today, so that residents will have heard.

Ms. Newark reported that there have been six more sign-ups this week, along with the article in the Townsman, that will be put on the website.

The group discussed having a list of organizations that are supporting the campaign, on the Website. A “Join Us” list. And get them to put the link on their website. Ms Korpi will draft a process for getting their permission.

Ms. Korpi opened the discussion about the statistics to use to describe the equivalency of purchasing renewable power relative to taking a car off the road – the question is how you convert purchasing a kWh of electricity using the US (1.4) or New England (.75) kWh equivalent for e-CO<sub>2</sub>. After discussion, the group agreed to use 9-months as the estimate, as our other statistics are all based on the coefficient for NE emissions for the generation of electricity.

Faith Groups: The Committee reviewed current plans by the Faith groups and planned continued outreach to St. Andrews and the Hills Church. Mr. Joyce agreed to provide a free 100% renewable power for auction at the Unitarian Church, in appreciation for their commitment to purchase 10% renewable for their Church.

Schools: Mr. Joyce also agreed to provide a free 100% renewable power for auction at the five school auctions that are planned this spring. Due to concern about competition between schools, the group agreed to make awards for all schools, based on different measurements of participation and total renewable energy.

Town Organizations: The Committee reviewed contacts with organizations. Ms. Littlefield offered that she could also speak at the Wellesley Club. The Group agreed that we need to develop a plan for training volunteers, to keep the message accurate and clear.

Businesses: The group agreed to make no differentiation on the level of participation for businesses, based on feedback from meetings with some businesses.

Mr. Joyce indicated that the same outreach letter should be used for small businesses as to the large commercial customers, and recommended that we include a measured target, to establish a goal.

Next GPC meeting: Monday the 13<sup>th</sup> at the MLP, tentatively 9:00a.m.

Meeting adjourned: 9:45a.m.

Next SEC Meeting: February 17th