

**Town Of Sandwich**  
**Energy Committee**  
**Minutes of Meeting – March 6, 2008**  
Approved April 3, 2008

Attendance: John Shane, Kevin Burgess, Robert Gottsche, Laura Gregorio-Tanguilig, Charles Kleekamp, Anna Burroughs-Merrill, Jorgen Birkeland, Kathleen Yetman, Eric Nelson. Absent: Damien Houlihan, Thomas Doherty. Both alternate members voting this meeting.

Guest attendees: Selectman Randy Hunt, Assistant Town Engineer Samuel Jensen.

Votes Taken

Article 1: Move to approve February 7, 2008 Minutes proposed by Anna Burroughs-Merrill. Seconded by Robert Gottsche. Vote: unanimous.

Article 2: Move to approve Mission Statement made by Laura Gregorio-Tanguilig. Seconded by Charles Kleekamp. Vote: unanimous.

General Discussion

Housekeeping Topics: The Committee briefly discussed several housekeeping topics, such as the conflict of interest and public meeting law handouts given to members by the Town Clerk, the best method of keeping Minutes, low-carbon footprint snacks, etc.

Press Policy: The Committee discussed how inquiries from the press should be handled. Any member may speak to the press, but members may want to redirect inquiries to a spokesperson or have the board issue a “press release” to keep the public informed. For now, Vice-Chairperson Eric Nelson is willing to speak to the press if members wish to redirect inquiries to one source.

Mission Statement: The Committee extensively discussed what the mission statement for the Committee should be. Suitable verbiage was drafted and agreed upon by members. As the Selectmen had already adjourned for the evening, the Committee appointed Eric Nelson to bring the approved Mission Statement before the full Board of Selectmen for approval before the next Committee meeting.

Upcoming Energy-Related Conferences: the NEED Energy Education conference is being hosted at the Holiday Inn, Hyannis on April 9<sup>th</sup>. Anna Burroughs-Merrill is already scheduled to attend, other members expressed an interest in attending if time permits.

Solar RECs at Forestdale School: the solar panels at the Forestdale School earned the town \$146.56 worth of Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) in 2007. The Committee discussed the fact that although over one million RECs were needed by companies trying to comply with energy regulations, so far only 700K are available.

Upcoming Regional Energy Committee's Meeting: The Cape Light Compact (CLC) is going to sponsor a regional meeting in Sandwich and invite representatives from other energy committees to attend sometime during the last week of May at no cost to the town. Debbie Fitton and Maggie Downey of the CLC will be coordinating this with the Committee. Suggested venue: Sandwich Hollows Golf Course clubhouse.

Author Tom Friedman: Titcomb's Book Shop is trying to bring Tom Friedman, author of "*Green is the New Red, White & Blue*" to Sandwich to address residents in a public forum. They are requesting the Committee support this effort by writing the publisher and issuing a formal invitation. Kathy Yetman agreed to write the invitation.

Presentation Commonwealth Solar Program: Kathy Yetman educated the Committee about the Commonwealth Solar Program. Towns can earn credits two ways: by increasing the number of households in town signed up for clean energy by 150 or by 3%. The program resets every May 1<sup>st</sup>. The Committee discussed approved technologies, such as "big belly" trash compactors, installing solar panels on various buildings around town, ways to encourage townspeople to sign up for "green" energy, tax credits available to consumers of green energy, ways to educate the kids about green topics, and things that could be done to help the town earn future credits. The Committee agreed to revisit this issue at a later meeting.

Clean Energy Choice Program Credits: The town has earned nearly \$15,000 in credits this year to install renewable technologies. The Committee will discuss how to use these funds at a future meeting.

Proposed Topics for Next Meeting: (subject to change prior to posting of official Agenda):

Maggie Downey, Cape Light Compact - energy efficiency work done to date (the town energy audit)

Maggie Downey, Cape Light Compact - the Cape & Vineyard Electric Cooperative.

US EPA Community Energy Challenge – Damien Houlihan.

MTC Community Wind Initiative – Damien Houlihan

Various Energy Topics – Committee members

Adjournment: Kathy Yetman moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 p.m. Motion seconded by Anna Burroughs-Merrill. Unanimous vote.

Next Meeting: Thursday, April 3, 2008 at 6:30 p.m., Recreation Department of Human Services Building.