

Sandwich Energy Committee



Meeting Minutes  
February 2, 2012

TOWN CLERK  
TOWN OF SANDWICH

MAR 14 2012

1 P 20 M P M  
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Present: Damien, Kevin, Ann, Sarah

Guests: Edie Hutchinson (interested in joining committee) and John Fith (attorney drafting solar by-law)

1. Welcome
2. Approval of January Meeting Minutes
  - a. Approved unanimously. Sarah will send to Town Clerk's office.
3. Solar Bylaw Update with John Fitch
  - a. The SEC wants to make sure that the draft bylaw complies with the Green Community Act (GCA) criteria. John clarified that the current draft designates industrial zones as "by right" for solar arrays and that applications outside of industrial zones would be required to apply for a special permit. Kevin will look over the draft to confirm that it would satisfy the GCA criteria.
  - b. John used the state's model solar bylaw to create the current draft. If adopted it would allow projects like the proposed array on Howland properties to move forward. The Howland project will continue to move forward despite the changes in federal incentives and are confident that they will be able to offer an attractive Power Purchase Agreement to the Town.
  - c. The current draft will go before the Planning Board on Tuesday, February 7. If the Committee has looked over the bylaw in enough detail we will send an email to the Planning Board chairman with our comments. The Planning Board will then call for a public hearing, take public comments into consideration and then it will go to Town Meeting for approval.
4. Ethics Training
  - a. Reminder that all Committee members need to complete the annual ethics training by the March deadline.
5. Town Report
  - a. Sarah created a first draft of a report for the Town on the Committee's actions over the past year. Included in the draft were graphics from Mass Energy Insights to give an example of how the energy data can be useful.
6. Cape and Vineyard Electric Coop Contact
  - a. Damien received our CVEC contact -- Jim Calligan
7. Edie Hutchinson



- a. Edie (a friend of Ann's) expressed interest in joining the Committee. She is currently pursuing a Masters in Sustainability and is the Sustainability Coordinator at her company. Damien told her to send an email if she would like to join.
8. MA Energy Insights Update
  - a. Sarah finished assigning all of the known energy accounts to the proper departments, facilities etc. There is still a small handful of accounts lacking any identifying descriptions. Sarah will reach out to someone at the Town to find out where to assign these accounts.
  - b. The next steps will be establishing an energy baseline and creating a goal to reduce the town's energy use by 20% in five years. This is one of the five GCA criteria.
9. Earth Day/Energy Expo
  - a. Damien was able to secure the speaker and venue (Town Hall) for Saturday April 21, 2012. Gill Newton from Sandwich High School has agreed to help along with some of his Environmental Technology students. The Chamber of Commerce will also be supporting and attending the event.
  - b. Damien will reach out for a contact at WHOI. In the coming months we will create a Facebook page, press releases etc.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45pm.

Prepared by Sarah Cote

Approved March 8, 2012  
