

Alternative Energy Committee Minutes

September 8th, 2011

Attendees:

Richard Binns (non-voting member)
Rich Bosse
John Donahue
Paul Savino

1. Public input

The committee received no public input.

2. Approval of August meeting minutes

Rich made a motion to approve the minutes for the August 9, 2011 meeting as amended. John seconded.

3. Direct Energy update

Town now has the proposed contract /marketing agreement and Tom Frenaye has the contact info for the DE Attorney so it is hoped that they will speak and resolve some items ready for the BoS meeting September 21st. Rates extracted from contract -For the Initial Offer Period, the price for Energy Services for Retail Electric Supply Service shall be \$ 0.0809 per kWh,..... plus all applicable taxes and fees, unless the Consumer qualifies for a Senior Citizen Discount, in which case the rate for Energy Services for Retail Electric Supply Service shall be \$0.0799 per kWh,If the Consumer chooses a Renewable Wind Energy product offered by Direct Energy, the rate for Energy Services for Retail Electric Supply Service shall be \$ 0.0859 per kWh,

4. Lighting and HVAC rebates for library & Town Hall

Carl Santoro is point of contact. CL&P has formula for calculating a rebate based on the difference between cost of basic equipment and the low energy alternative which often makes the cost to the Town the same for either option.

5. Incandescent lighting at Library

Rich had emailed John Cloonan who says that the lights are already CFL. Rich then went on to the subject of water heaters. At this time they are all standard old style tank heaters. Rich suggested looking into instantaneous heater which can greatly reduce energy usage – but users need to understand that the heater does not work if the faucet is only turned on slow. The discussion progressed on to the idea of natural gas instantaneous which could be a much bigger saver of energy and also great reduction in cost to the Town in the locations where it is available. The subject came up of whether the gas company would be interested in providing a test location. Rich will follow up with John Cloonan and the gas company on these questions. Rich suggested that Carl Santoro may be available to check the Library and other Town buildings. We need Joe Sangiovanni to put this on the next agenda of Permanent Building Committee.

6. Web site links provided by John

It was agreed that links which John had provided be passed on to Tom Frenaye for inclusion on Town web site.

7. Trash and Recycle Summary

John presented a spreadsheet and a couple of plots summarizing town statistics on trash and recycle gathered from Town Annual reports. This data has been being reported by Robert (Bob) Hines (recently retired, but still working a couple of days/wk as a consultant). Bob reviewed the summary with John. It is noteworthy that the total of single stream recycle and landfill recycle today (796 lbs/household) still hasn't reached the total of recycle at the landfill in 2006 (874 lbs/household). This data provides a good reference point for the town to track increases in the amount of waste being recycled

See attached file [recycle-trash summary.xlsx](#)

8. Review of action items

- a) Richard Binns – will keep on top of the Direct Energy project with Tom Frenaye.
- b) John Donahue Investigate Skype and phone contact from Florida for winter meetings.
- c) Rich Bosse will check with John Cloonan re on demand water heaters and possibility of Natural Gas version in some locations.
- d) John Donahue will pass on proposed “generic” links to Tom Frenaye for the AEC’s page on the Town of Suffield website.

9. Plan agenda for next meeting

Proposed agenda for September 8, 2011 meeting:

1. Public input
2. Approval of September 8th meeting minutes
3. Direct Energy update
4. Report on assignments:
 - a) Rich Bosse – on demand water heaters
 - b) John Donahue – Skype links
 - c) Rich contact library director
5. Review of action items
6. Plan agenda for next meeting
7. Adjourn

10. Adjourn (8:30pm)