

North Haven Clean Energy Task Force  
Monthly Meeting Minutes for February 14<sup>th</sup> 2011

Next Meeting March 14<sup>th</sup> 2011

Attended by: Nick Gill; Mary Mahon; Maury Libson; Kenny Foscue; Hugh Davis; Caroline Dumont

1. Announcements:

To date there have been over 400 sign-ups for clean energy. We will need an additional number to earn another set of solar panels

Earth Day this year is Good Friday April 22<sup>nd</sup>. However North Haven's Earth Day celebration has been set for April 15<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm at the North Haven middle school.

2. Solar Panels and Ceremony:

Hugh Davis was in touch with Rob Miller, project manager, who informed him that they are almost finished with the installation of panels, but are waiting on one part, and then it will be complete. Following this, they will need to be inspected by UI, and town building inspector, which will take at least three weeks.

Hugh Davis indicated that he emailed Clean Energy Fund's Jillian Carbone with a list of invitees for the 'ribbon cutting' ceremony. Letty McPhedran will contact local papers with details.

We questioned whether or not we need the solar panels to be fully operational and inspected to set a date for the ceremony. The thought was that we didn't and discussed arranging it to precede or coincide with this year's Earth Day celebration, which this year is set for Friday April 15<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm at the Middle school. Generally, it was thought best to have the ceremony at the end of a weekday when the students were done with their day.

Next Month's meeting aim to plan a second ceremony at the High School or reception of some sort which would include and recognize the North Haven citizens who signed up for clean energy. This idea was suggested at January meeting by NHCETF member Sarah Baird who thought it would be important to recognize citizen's commitment to clean energy and encourage others to do the same.

3. Forum with North Haven business community, UI, Clean Energy Fund, and Chamber of Commerce.

Sheri Borelli of UI willing to facilitate forum where local business owners would be invited to learn about and sign up for clean energy, and energy efficiency programs.

Diantha had previously tried to contact Robin Wilson who heads Quinnipiac Chamber of Commerce, but has not back from her. Unclear how to proceed from here in this regard.

Question of finding out how many businesses in region have signed up for clean energy option was raised. Kenny Foscue indicated that he would try to get this information from CEF or ask Roger Smith who might be able to point us in right direction.

Discussed North Haven Health and Racket club's success at installing solar panels on their roof. Nick Gill had learned from them that they save about 50% of their energy costs now. Would be interesting to have profile their success at forum.

#### 4. EPA Community Challenge

Aim is to have town earn more solar panels.

Moving goal-line from 20% to 25% clean energy for municipal buildings by the end of 2012. Town has achieved the 20% by 2010 requirement by purchasing green certificates.

Letty has been working with Linda Darveau at EPA in Boston who is helping establish baseline energy use of town buildings. Benchmarking for top 12 energy users in town (and identifying these structures) being carried out, which can then lead to an energy audit for these structures. Plan is also to contact school officials to benchmark schools.

#### 5. Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP)

Discussed recent announcement by Gov. Malloy to restructure the DEP. Hiring Yale's Daniel Esty to head it. Generally members felt positively towards the planned changes.