

North Haven Clean Energy Task Force Minutes 3/14/11

Present, Kenny Foscue, Vice Chairperson, Maurice Libson, Mary Mahon, Nick Gill, Letty McPhedran, Caroline Dumont

Absent: Hugh Davis, Sharon Huttner, Sarah Baird, Jackie Laduko, Diantha Thorpe

Minutes were approved with corrections

SOLAR PANEL UPDATE: April is a strong possibility for the celebration. Letty says CEF really demands to do the publicity. Letty has sent the full newspaper list to them. Members agreed we should get some letters to the editor ready for sending at the time. Letty will email updated newspaper contacts list to members. Perhaps this event could be the afternoon of North Haven's Earth Day. Kenny will write Jillian to have event at NHHS if possible.

EARTH DAY in North Haven will be Friday April 15, 5:30 to 8:30. Kenny, Letty and Nick will be at a NHCETF table there. The NHHS Project Green will also have a table.

BENCHMARKING WORKSHOP at Gateway, North Haven will be Mar. 23. Nick will attend. Mr. Freda has had two emails from us asking him to send a town employee.

DCS ENERGY PRESENTATION is Tues Mar, 15. Letty will go. This is a company that has stimulus money to offer free solar panels to towns and non profits. We hope to get Mr. Freda interested in this offer. Kenny will write a letter for all of us to sign to urge to have a designated town employee for energy issues that may affect this town. Meanwhile Kenny will call Mr. Freda to give him notice of our desires and needs.

EPA ENERGY CHALLENGE Linda Darveau of the Boston Regional Office has emailed Letty that an intern will be available this summer to help with benchmarking town buildings. Letty will respond "yes!" and add the several more things we decided an intern could work on. And we will ask for a synopsis of what other CT towns have accomplished through EPA.

SOCIAL MARKETING Nick offered to make a Facebook page for the TF. The Q Chamber and the newspapers have pages. It would enable us to connect with businesses and other people in town. It may promote signups. Nick will look up the Chamber's page and see if we can influence them. Letty will give Nick the Clean Energy members in other towns, and look up what towns Roger Smith recommended we combine with to share an energy manager. Nick will contact some Clean Energy members about what they offered businesses.

BUSINESS OUTREACH PROJECT. Chem-scope, 15 Moulthrop, 203-865-5605, is the only business in town signed up for clean energy through Community Energy and Connex Credit Union, 412 Washington Ave, 203-603-5700, is the only business signed up through Sterling Energy. We decided we need a package of what will benefit businesses. The Chamber responded to Diantha with suggestions to be at several meeting, but dates not mentioned. They also said they could put a brief article in their newsletter addressed to businesses. Kenny offered to work with Diantha to write this Chamber newsletter article.

SCOG (South Central Regional Council of Governments-15 towns) They might organize a meeting of Task Forces in the future. Perhaps there will be an April meeting in Science Park.

GRANTS: Mary reports the Project Green group will be sending another request for a grant through Anthony Giordano, their advisor.

PUBLICITY We noticed the fliers offering free audits in several of the local papers. Mary brought in a long Feb. 3 article asking for more TF members.

Letty will send to all members of the TF Lynn Stoddard's survey. Letty will bring a copy to our next meeting. But a member may want to fill it in and send it off by email. We all should read it, because it shows the possibilities that other Task Forces have taken on and we can wonder at that.

Next meeting will be April 11 at 7:00 at the Recreation center.

Respectfully submitted
Letitia McPhedran