

**Tolland Energy Task Force
Meeting Minutes
August 4, 2010**

Energy Task Force Present: Mark Summers, Michael Gannon, Letitia Naigles, Mark Riesbeck, George Roberts

Liaisons Present: Chris White (BOE)

Others Present: None

Meeting was held at Hicks Memorial Town Council Chambers

Meeting did not have quorum, but it was decided to proceed with an informational meeting.

Mark Summers called to order: 7:05PM

Approval of Minutes: Mark Summers moved to approve the June 2nd minutes.
Discussion: None. All were in favor

Geothermal Design Status & Roof Grant

Mark recently met with the architect and design firms for the Town Hall geothermal project. The detailed design is currently waiting on a decision from TETF and the Town regarding the inclusion of roof and skylight improvements to improve the building energy efficiency. These improvements will reduce the size of the system and number of wells which will result in an equipment savings as well as a savings in annual operating costs. All members present agreed that these improvements should be made. Mark will follow-up with the design firm to obtain an estimate for this work and then follow up with Steve Werbner to determine whether a grant can be used for these improvements or if it needs to be included as part of the capital project.

CT Clean Energy

As part of the CT Clean Energy resolution, Tolland is required to reduce annual electricity consumption by 10%. The reduction will be based on the annual usage of Town and BOE buildings (water/sewer facilities will not be included) which will be confirmed by Josh Freeman and Chris White. This usage will be provided to Community Energy so they can issue a contract and will also serve as the baseline for measuring the reduction.

Ideas were discussed on how to encourage staff and other occupants of Town and BOE buildings to reduce electricity usage. Meet with energy managers, hold a contest between buildings, and place a progress “thermometer” in buildings to show progress toward 10% goal.

A press release has been drafted stating that Tolland has passed the resolution to become a Clean Energy town. Letitia will review.

Publications

Letitia has written two articles. One summarizes the CT Clean Energy plan for the town and also covers how residents can sign up for clean energy for their home. Mark Riesbeck will contact the school science coordinator to see if there is interest in developing a public display that would show the number of households in Tolland that purchase clean energy. The display could be powered by one of the solar panels that were donated to the school last year. The other article provides tips for residents on ways to conserve energy. These articles will be submitted to Tolland Monthly for publication.

David Scotti and David Bergeron are still in the process of writing additional articles for future publication.

General Progress

Mike Gannon proposed that TETF should consider forming sub-committees that could focus on specific tasks. The sub-committees could meet as needed and report progress at monthly TETF meetings. Please submit ideas for sub-committee categories. This will be discussed at the next TETF meeting.

The involvement of TETF membership was discussed and it was agreed that all members should be asked if they wish to remain in TETF. If there are open spots identified, we can solicit new members to fill the opening. Please contact Mark Summers to let him know if you wish to remain active in TETF.

Dyson Airblade Dryer

The group discussed this device which is a high efficiency hand dryer. It was agreed by the members present that the cost to retrofit restrooms and maintain the devices in Town and BOE buildings would not make this a practical option at this time. Future renovations or new construction should consider this device.

UConn Internship Program

Letitia has drafted a posting for an intern from UConn to work with TETF on a Community Energy Education Program. She will follow-up with Anji Seth and Beverly Bellody who would be the points of contact at UConn and the Town respectively.

Other Topics

Reminder to TETF members to send meeting agenda topics to Mark Summers at anytime to be included in the next meeting

Meeting Adjourned: 8:20 PM

Respectfully submitted,

George Roberts