

Wallingford Energy Conservation Commission
February 22, 2010
Town Hall Room #116 @ 7:00 p.m.

Minutes

In attendance: Bill Pursell, Sharon Mooney, John Lynch, Ben Martin, Rosalind Page, Chris Smith, Mary Mushinsky

The Commission was called to order at 7:08 PM.

The draft minutes of the Jan 25 meeting were approved unanimously.

The commission discussed the final report for NxeGen. The only other information that was desired was how the costs of the measures would increase if the project was delayed. It was recommended that we contact NxeGen to see if they could provide estimates of these costs. Mike Brodinsky emailed that he is in contact with Sal Menzo about securing funding to implement the NxeGen plan. Mary Mushinsky provided an update of the information she had gathered on other sources of funding:

- Mary had spoken with Rick Hendershot of the electric division and was hopeful they could cover a portion of the cost. There is some limitation because the PUC has a policy of only covering electrical improvements where other CMEEC town utilities do not make this distinction. The council resolved to contact the PUC to ask for an explanation of this policy and hopefully request modifying the efficiency programs to be "fuel blind" (not limited to electrical improvements).
- Mary also reported that CMEEC funds for efficiency improvements are being used rapidly so we need to apply soon.
- REGGI money may also be available, but should also be applied for soon.
- Rosa Delauro sent Mary some forms about federal programs that could also be helpful.

Chris Smith will be reaching out to Roger Smith for advice on how to maximize our use of these funds.

The final NxeGen report has been distributed to the PTO and they are very supportive.

Ros Page spoke with Vinnie Mascia to find out the status of the hybrid car they were awarded a grant for. The car has not been purchased yet but when they do they plan to track the fuel use and share the data with us. Ros will follow up with them.

John Lynch reported that he was in contact with Meriden and North Haven Energy Commissions and they were eager to share ideas and resources. He also contacted the Cheshire group but has not received an answer yet.

- Juliet Burdelski is the Grants Administrator in Meriden and is very active in pursuing clean energy grants. She is open to cooperation with us and other town such as Southington.
- She also suggested we contact Ed Bowman of Fairfield as he has some good experience
- Hugh Davis in North Haven is currently very busy organizing their Earth Day presentation but suggested a possible joint meeting in May.
- North Haven has committed to reducing emission by 20% by 2011 and are taking advantage of CL&P programs to get free solar systems for town buildings

The Commission also discussed organizing an Earth Day presentation but determined that we sufficient expertise or time to plan. The online tools provided by CTCleanEnergy need to be researched by Commission members. In addition the Changemakers grant (\$5000) could be useful but it needs to be determined if our group is eligible.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40.

Draft Minutes prepared by Ben Martin on 02/22/2010.