



**Durham Energy Committee
Monday, November 16, 2009
Town Council Chambers, Durham Town Hall
4:30 P.M.**

Minutes

Present: Kevin Gardner - Chair, Nate Balch, Dave Cedarholm-- Town Engineer, Mike Hoffman, Robin Mower, Filson Glanz (meeting scribe)

Absent: Don Brautigan

Guests: Laurel Cox - Lee Energy Committee

I. The Meeting was called to order at 4:35.

II. Agenda - as published with discussion and a few changes: approved.

III. We discussed topics other than the Master Plan

A. Energy Committee annual report to the Town Council; Preparation off Annual Report- Due Dec.1, 2009.

1. Items accomplished

a. Master plan work.

b. Public input session.

c. Lecture series at DPL and tour of White apartment site - "Rivers Edge."

d. Talks with developers about their concerns and ideas.

e. Talks with the Durham Code Enforcement Officer.

f. Promoted green building

g. Gave our input to the Durham Charrette meetings.

h. Learned about RFPs for RIGGI, Retrofits and submitted proposals.

i. Heard a presentation on possible hydropower site at Durham Mill Pond.

j. Wind analysis by Don Brautigan

2. Goals of 2010

a. Increase public awareness

b. Talk to State Legislators about energy and legislation.

c. Work on Regional Co-operative energy programs.

d. Get more info on our web site

B. Should DEC be open to nonresident membership? The Committee believes that all expertise is welcome, so the answer is “yes.”

C. Whether to pursue through our state legislators the possibility of municipal funding for homeowner energy efficiency measures? A bill about this is in the wings. Laurel reported that Dorn Cox of the Lee Energy Committee says there are some good measures in this bill. Follow-up: research this bill specifically and learn how we can find out about energy-related legislation in general. (MEAP - Municipal Energy Assistance Program is the title. Look at LEC web site for this.) Kevin will ask Representative Amanda Merrill to attend a meeting.

D. The Energy Committee applied for NH Office of Energy and Planning Retrofit Ramp-Up Program - they were looking for a few towns to work with on a very short time frame to put in the proposal for rapid implementation of GHG-saving measures. Laurel reported that Dorn of the Lee Energy committee says there are some good measures in this bill. (Look for this on web!). Look at LEC web site for MEAP - Municipal Energy Assistance Program.

E. NH Municipal Energy Committee “Energy Efficiency Block Grant Program.”
We need to follow up.

F. Energy audits for municipal facilities, equipment and operating practices.
There have been some assessments done already, by PSNH (our recollection is that it looked only at the electrical systems) and Ihab Farag had a class of student evaluate the Town Public Works site.

G. **Kevin** will draft: 1) Town energy policy for buildings 2) Vehicles etc.

H. Dave noted that the application to the Bicycle Friendly Community program was rejected, but that Durham will reapply next year: additional developments in Durham will help.

Mike: We need bike racks as tradeoff with required parking spaces.
Options?? Business??

I. **Laurel:** SPC - Strafford Regional Planning Commission has programs to consider.

J. Web site revision; reviewed links page. Agreed to add sites to categories and to ask residents to provide favorites via Friday Update:

1. Green Building : Add LEED
2. Energy and conservation
3. ASES, NESEA, NHSEA, SEAREI etc.
4. Great Bay Stewards
5. OTChoice.com

NEXT MEETING: December 7 at 4:30 PM.