

From: Susan Mazurski March 20, 2012 10:00:25 AM  
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#### CLEAN ENERGY TASK FORCE MINUTES

March 14, 2012

#### REGULAR MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by Chairman Boeshans in room 103 of Simsbury Town Hall, with the following members present: Jim Ray, Susan Van Kleeef, and Patrick Boeshans.

#### 1. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MEETING ON FEBRUARY 8, 2012

The draft minutes from the February 8th meeting were reviewed by all. Commissioner Van Kleeef made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Commissioner Ray seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

#### 2. PUBLIC AUDIENCE

Chairman Boeshans opened the floor for public audience. Mark Garrett and Melissa Everett of Community Energy were in attendance. Mr. Garrett discussed the changes in the State's Clean Energy Options Program. For the initial phase that was directly related to the 20% by 2010 goal, Community Energy and Sterling Planet had been the State selected providers for the Clean Energy option program. With the completion of that phase, the State again held a competition for two suppliers in which Community Energy was selected again along with a new company, 3Degrees. The period of performance for this phase is 5 years so these two companies will be the only ones where Clean Energy option credits are possible for that time period. For those who signed up with Sterling Planet, those credits will remain viable. Community Energy has changed their mix of clean energy offerings with now 99% Wind produced in the Northeast and 1% Solar produced in the Northeast. 3Degrees does not distinguish the source for their offerings but stated them as 5% New England Renewable Energy and 95% Northeast Renewable Energy. The rates are the same for either supplier with the 100% option being \$0.0099 per kWh. This is less than previously offered which was at \$0.0130 and will be a help in getting new sign-ups. Community Energy will continue to provide clean energy from its own sources and continue to help develop new clean energy sources in the Northeast. Mr. Garrett indicated that the State is working on a plan that will also incorporate energy efficiency/conservation into their program, but the details are not finalized as yet. Ms. Diana McCarthy-Bercury (mccard@nu.com

860-665-5061) is the Northeast Utilities Program Administrator for the utilities role in this program identified for Conservation and Load Management. There is a State forum set for April 3rd with Municipal Leaders which is expected to be when the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) will 'roll-out' their new program. In regard to the receipt of earned credits to CETF from Community Energy due to CETF direct sign-ups, Mr. Garrett indicated that he had now received the required W-9 form from the Town of Simsbury and was finalizing the totals for 2010 and 2011. He indicated that he had completed review of 2010 and had 11 sign-ups which was in line with the numbers that all CETF members thought. As soon as he has completed 2011, he will issue a check to the Town of Simsbury for the CETF account. Commissioner Ray requested that Mr. Garrett provide a list of the commercial businesses that have signed up with Community Energy as the State's website has not been updated in over a year with that information. Mr. Garrett indicated that he could provide that easily. Ms. Everett is replacing Mr. Jim Iacovelli (who has taken a job out of state) as the liaison with Simsbury CETF and will be working to continue to get Clean Energy Option sign-ups in Simsbury. Commissioner Ray indicated that Simsbury has led the state in getting Clean Energy Option sign-ups over the last year. Normally sign-ups have been done at public locations like Fitzgerald's and the Library and Simsbury Town Events like the sign-ups done at Simsbury Celebrates last year. The next event is normally in April with the Simsbury Volunteer Expo, and the CETF will get the information to Ms. Everett when that date is announced. Following the discussions with both Community Energy representatives, the public audience was closed by Chairman Boeshans.

### 3. REVIEW OF ACTIONABLE ITEMS

a. Review of Henry James Sustainability Project: Commissioner Van Kleeef had received a specific proposal from Ms. Janet Black at Henry James Memorial School. As discussed in prior meetings, HJMS was interested in pursuing a school garden which they could use for educational purposes as well as providing the resulting crops to local organizations in need. The proposal provided the mission statement, the program goals, the student outcomes and the requested funds for both gardens at HJMS and also Simsbury High School. It was generally agreed that the proposal was well done as it clearly stated how the program will benefit the educational process as well as support the locally produced sustainability goal. The requested funds were also itemized for each needed item for the projects which clearly identified the use for the funds requested. The total funds were also within the range that CETF had previously discussed it would grant for such community projects. Commissioner Van Kleeef made a motion to approve the proposal and its request for \$1,365.70 and was seconded by Commissioner Ray. All voted in favor of the approval of the funds. The funds will come from the Aquarion grant that had included support of educational programs as one of its three areas. The request for the funds distribution will be

handled through Mr. Tom Roy with a requested date by 1 April to allow the school sufficient time to get their project started this Spring.

b. Extension of Sustainability Project to SHS and Available Funding: No discussion was needed on this agenda item as both were addressed in the prior discussion about Henry James. It was noted that the third \$5,000 payment from Aquarion had now been received with the total available funds in the CETF account now being \$15,000.

c. CE Options Program Update-Event Calendar: Mr. Tom Roy, Simsbury Director of Public Works has informed CETF that he is in the final stages of completing the purchase of the Renewable Energy Credits. Mr. Roy is coordinating these with the State to be sure they meet the required criteria. This is the final step for Simsbury to be recognized as a Clean Energy Community and also qualifies Simsbury to receive the free solar system and installation. Based on the current Clean Energy Option sign-ups, Simsbury has earned a 7 kW system. Goal is to have it installed on the High School subject to a required energy audit that Mr. Roy is planning and final State approval. As noted during the discussion by Community Energy, changes to the State's program have and are continuing to change with more details expected at the noted April 3rd meeting. For the next event where Clean Energy Options sign-ups will be held, it was identified that it would be the upcoming Simsbury Volunteer Expo. No date could be found as yet, but Chairman Boeshans will obtain the date and send out to the CETF members prior to the next meeting.

d. Charter/Scope/Strategic Planning: Commissioner Beinstein was not in attendance so this topic will be carried over to the next meeting.

e. Review of CETF Organizational Structure, Task Force Size and Recruiting Plan: Commissioner Beinstein was not in attendance so this topic will be carried over to the next meeting.

#### 4. OPEN FORUM

Commissioner Van Kleef had attended the Hartford Area Regional Clean Energy Workshop on Feb 25th in West Hartford. She indicated that much of the information that Community Energy had discussed was covered, but also energy saving performance contracting, strategies for residential/commercial outreach, regional cooperation, idea sharing and brainstorming. Commissioner Ray indicated there was a follow-up forum from the prior one coordinated by the Wethersfield Energy Committee scheduled for Mar 24th to provide further discussions in sustainability. Commissioner Ray has a conflict for the date, but Commissioner Van Kleef indicated that she tentatively is planning to attend.

Chairman Boeshans indicated that he had not yet completed the Community Energy Grant application as he had to enter all the prior results from the first efforts by First Church and Simsbury High School manually to close those out first. This will provide an additional \$2,000 for Community grants that will be handled like last time with a Request for Proposal to the Simsbury community.

Chairman Boeshans indicated that although the Green Business Challenge program had been deferred until further CETF membership positions were filled, due to a specific request from a local business, he indicated that he would propose that we at least start a demo program to get some initial businesses recognized that can then be used as examples for the formal opening to all businesses. A general discussion was held about how to handle the decals. For the demo phase, Chairman Boeshans indicated he could handle those within his company without the need for a full procurement at this time. Commissioner Van Kleef indicated that CETF had also never paid for the design and development work done by Ms. Mary Murphy of Sage River Graphics. Commissioner Van Kleef thus made a motion to pay Sage River Graphics \$150 for the decal design/development. Commissioner Ray seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the approval of the \$150.

#### 5. NEXT MEETING

The next scheduled meeting is March 28th.

#### 6. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Van Kleef motioned to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ray and unanimously approved.