

CLEAN ENERGY TASK FORCE MINUTES
SUBJECT TO APPROVAL
April 4, 2016
REGULAR MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by Commissioner Ray in the Room 103 of Simsbury Town Hall, with the following members present: Susan Van Kleef, Jim Ray, Mark Scully and Melissa Osborne.

1. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MEETING ON MARCH 7th, 2016:

The minutes from the March meeting were reviewed by all. Commissioner Scully made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Commissioner Van Kleef seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

- Amendment to page 1, line 16. Change phrase 'he is an consultant' to 'he is a consultant.'
- Amendment to page 1, line 27. Change phrase 'not much additional funds' to 'not much in additional funds.'
- Amendment to page 1, line 48. Change phrase 'Development as how' to 'Development as to how.'
- Amendment to page 1, line 51. Correct spelling 'conducating' to 'conducting.'

2. PUBLIC AUDIENCE:

Mr. Bill Butler was in attendance with an interest in becoming a member of the Clean Energy Task Force. He was told that with the current make-up of the group, he would need to either be unaffiliated or registered as a Republican to fill the vacant position. Mr. Butler was not sure what his current voter registration affiliation is but he thought he registered as a Republican. Commissioner Ray indicated that once he verified that, CETF would recommend him to Simsbury Town Republican Committee to be formally nominated.

Mr. Will Scully was in attendance and updated his effort from the last meeting in regard to contacting the possible conservation assessment firms from the State approved list. Again, not all firms had responded to his initial requests of interest in working with Simsbury, but there are some that are very interested. As advised by the State, the firms typically will provide some type of donation to the Town for each energy assessment accomplished. Mr. Scully indicated that of those that had shown interest, they are willing to donate \$50 for the Town to use for each assessment done. As previously agreed, any funds that are received from this future effort would be used for local charities - to be determined. Mr. Scully also had requested each firm that was interested to also provide references for efforts they already had completed. Mr. Scully indicated that he will finalize all the information from his contacts and get it to the CETF members for a final decision of the firms (at least two) to be selected. As Mr. Scully is working with Commissioner Scully, further discussion on this initiative will be held under normal agenda item.

With no further discussions brought forward, Commissioner Ray closed the public audience.

3. BRIGHT IDEA GRANT UPDATE:

Commissioner Ray indicated that Mr. Tom Roy, Simsbury Director of Public Works, is finalizing the Bright Idea Grant submittal that will add insulation to the six town owned low income residences. When complete, he will be presenting it to the Simsbury Board of Selectman for approval before submittal to the State.

4. GREEN BUSINESS CHALLENGE PROGRAM/SMALL BUSINESS POWER DOWN PLANS/STATUS DISCUSSION:

Commissioner Scully indicated that besides the effort to do the initial screening of potential conservation assessment firms, an initial contact has been made with Ms. Lisa Gray, Executive Director of the Simsbury Chamber of Commerce as to promoting the program. The Chamber holds various social functions for networking and breakfast meetings with speakers where CETF can present information. Dates in April and May are being coordinated now with Ms. Gray for initial sessions. Contacts also will be made with the Simsbury-Granby Rotary Club and Simsbury Main Street Partnership for promotional opportunities. Ms. Ali Jackman, from the Eversource Clean Energy Communities/Energy Efficiency program is continuing to provide support and will participate as part of the effort. The Clinton, CT Energy Task Force has already done a similar program in their town and has provided information and ideas in support of Simsbury's program. This program does not have a time limitation like the Simsbury Solarize program, so efforts will continue as long as there is interest and activity is being accomplished.

54 **5. CETF WEBSITE PLAN DISCUSSION:**

55 Commissioner Van Kleef is meeting with Mr. Rick Bazzano, Simsbury Computer Manager, to discuss the website and
56 will report at the next meeting.

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58 **6. 100% SIMSBURY PLAN DISCUSSION:**

59 Commissioner Scully indicated he is continuing to coordinate efforts with West Hartford which is doing a similar
60 effort. Initial efforts continue with the solar potential assessment of the towns utilizing the services of a couple of Yale
61 students who are doing the data analysis. 'Google Sunroof' is one tool that is being used for West Hartford, but
62 Simsbury is not yet included in their database. Another tool that can be used is 'Helioscope', but there is a cost
63 associated with its use. For the first effort, general data has been provided by the Town (government, commercial,
64 residential) that can be used to do a general estimate. Also contact has been made to the Acadia Center, a non-profit
65 organization focusing on a clean energy economy, and they have indicated possible support for the plan.

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67 **7. SHARED SOLAR DISCUSSION:**

68 Commissioners Beinstein and Scully are working with Mr. Tom Roy, Simsbury Director of Public Works, in
69 evaluating the responses to the request for qualifications issued by the Town to support the shared solar proposal. A
70 total of six responses were received with one eliminated initially. A final decision of those selected (2 or 3) will be
71 made by the Town. Currently the Connecticut DEEP request for proposal (RFP) for the effort is still not released.

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73 **8. OPEN FORUM:**

74 Commissioner Van Kleef indicated that the State had not yet defined their summer educational classes to be offered for
75 teachers under their 'eesmarts' program. When that information is released, she will contact some teachers at Simsbury
76 schools for interest as well as determine if they have participated in the past and if the District will pay for their
77 attendance. If attendance is not paid for, CETF will consider possible grants for those who wish to attend.

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79 **9. NEXT MEETING**

80 The next regularly scheduled meeting is May 2nd.

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82 **10. ADJOURNMENT**

83 Commissioner Osborne motioned to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:05 p.m. The motion was seconded by
84 Commissioner Scully and unanimously approved.