

From: Susan Mazurski June 28, 2011 5:14:13 PM
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Cc:

Draft

CLEAN ENERGY TASK FORCE MINUTES

June 15, 2011

REGULAR MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m. by Chairman Boeshans in the main meeting room of Simsbury Town Hall, with the following members present: Jim Ray, Susan Van Kleef, and Patrick Boeshans.

1. PUBLIC AUDIENCE

With several in attendance, Chairman Boeshans deferred the Review and Approval of prior minutes to open the floor for public discussion. In attendance were Ms. Kim West, Henry James Middle School Social Studies teacher and Advisor to their Eco Club along with several of the Eco members – Katelyn Paddock, Morgan Bayona and Raven Vella. Also present were Mr. Paul Horowitz and Mr. Harald Bender.

Ms. West provided an overview of the curricula which covers global issues and cultures including such things as the environment, natural resources, energy legislation, alternative energy, conservation and sustainment. The students provided examples of their ideas/efforts in regard to recycling in the school, the use of Styrofoam in the cafeteria, recyclable copy paper, water bottles, Earth Hour, composting, etc. A general discussion among all present was held about other Eco efforts and ideas that could be considered including an Eco Friendly Science Fair, a poster design contest, permanent water bottles versus throw aways, coordination of activities with other schools within the area, energy monitoring/saving contests within the school, etc. Chairman Boeshans indicated that the CETF has done efforts with the Simsbury 5th grades and the Environmental Club at the High School and would be happy to work with Henry James also. CETF could make funds available for specific plans/proposals. As such, they were encouraged to think about all that was discussed and perhaps put together a plan/proposal for consideration for the CETF.

Mr. Harald Bender provided a follow up discussion on cut off lighting that he had discussed in a prior CETF meeting in April 2010. For any town requirement, he was referred to Mr. Tom Roy, Simsbury Director of Public Works, as this was outside of the CETF charter. It was agreed that the basic principle was consistent with the Green Business Challenge program and it could be added to the example section as a energy conservation

approach that a business could pursue.

Mr. Paul Horowitz asked if a date had been set for the shared energy manager, Peregrine Energy, to come to a CETF meeting. Chairman Boeshans indicated not yet but he would follow up with Mr. Tom Roy to arrange. Mr. Horowitz also indicated that he was going to a meeting in regards to sustainability that Nevin Christensen of Flamig Farm was organizing and would report back to the CETF. He indicated that a good reference for local governments plans for sustainability was through ICLEI (www.iclei.org).

2. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MEETING ON JUNE 1, 2011

The draft minutes from the June 1st meeting were not posted on the Simsbury Town Web Site and Chairman Boeshans did not have a hard copy available. As such, the review and approval of these minutes were deferred to the next meeting.

3. REVIEW OF ACTIONABLE ITEMS

A follow-on discussion was held in regard to the educational initiative in regard to other possible contacts besides the Henry James Eco Club. Other areas of interest could be through their technical education programs and science departments. Commissioner Van Kleef will contact Commissioner Beinstein for other contacts.

The Green Business Challenge printed material was not available for review as Commissioner Beinstein was out of town, but Commissioner Van Kleef had provided an initial proposal received for the decals. It was determined that the pricing for the quantities was more than planned, so Commissioner Van Kleef will investigate some other possible quantities and Chairman Boeshans will look for alternate suppliers. Commissioner Ray had contacted Dennis Jacobs, President of the Simsbury Chamber of Commerce, to determine any events or means that this can be done with their membership but had not heard back to him as yet. He will follow up. Other potential avenues for getting information out on the GBC were discussed to include the Septemberfest and its associated Home Improvements show. This could be used for both the GBC intro and Clean Energy options sign-ups. Chairman Boeshans will contact Simsbury Deputy First Selectman John Hampton to get details for the event. He also will contact Commissioner Beinstein to get the updated GBC printed material.

The Simsbury High School Environmental Club has finished its efforts in regard to the Clean Energy Fund grant. Chairman Boeshans will contact them to get the information for the final report to send to the state. From the latest status from the Clean Energy Fund (end of Feb) in regard to Clean Energy Option sign-ups in Simsbury, there was a very good increase in the first two months of the year (Simsbury was #1 in the state for February sign-ups) that probably are directly related to the efforts by the Environmental Club.

4. IDENTIFICATION OF NEW ACTIONABLE ITEMS

Chairman Boeshans indicated that he would contact the shared Energy Manager and invite him to a future CETF meeting.

5. OPEN FORUM

No additional topics were identified.

6. NEXT MEETING/FUTURE MEETINGS CALENDAR

The next scheduled meeting is July 13th.

7. ADJOURNMENT

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