

Hampton Green Energy Committee
Hampton, CT 06247
Minutes
Wednesday, September 13, 2017
7:00 PM
Town Hall Conference Room

1. Call to Order

Chair Kate Donnelly called the meeting to order at 7:02. Committee members in attendance were Kate Donnelly, Maryellen Donnelly, Ellen Embardo, Ev Hyde, Revell Sandberg-Diment and Sharon Wakely. Also in attendance was Michael Quick.

2. Audience for Citizens

None

3. Approval of Minutes: 6/14/17

Motion: Ev Hyde moved, Sharon Wakely seconded, to approve the minutes of 6/14/17 as amended (change date in 3. *Approval of Minutes* to 5/10/17). The motion passed unanimously.

4. Additions to the Agenda

Motion: Maryellen Donnelly moved, Ev Hyde seconded, to add review of town bills and discussion of solar projects to the agenda. The motion passed unanimously. The addition will be 7. New Business (d).

5. Old Business

a. Summer Activities-film series, other updates

The films (“Breakthrough in Renewable Energy” and “Before the Flood”) were well attended and valuable. See Kate if you would like to view them.

b. Webpage Updates

Ellen will check links.

c. “Electric Evolution, Renewable Solutions” - October 14; 10-2

i. Funding - banner

Thank you to Kate for obtaining a grant to specifically fund the October 14 event.

Motion: Sharon Wakely moved, Maryellen Donnelly seconded, to accept the \$1,000 grant from the New England Grassroots Environment Fund, Newmarket NH, with thanks and to allocate it to the “Electric Evolution, Renewable Solutions” program. The motion passed unanimously.

Among the uses are light bulb distribution, door prizes, and ten yard signs which Kate will obtain to advertise the event.

ii. Mailing through Eversource

Kate has arranged for Eversource to include the flyer on the reverse side of a letter being mailed at the beginning of October to Hampton households to encourage people to obtain Home Energy Solutions assessments.

iii. Flyer distribution

Thank you to Kate and Michael for design and layout of the flyer. Committee members chose sites to post and distribute the flyer.

- iv. Media – press release, local distribution lists
Kate will prepare the press release.
 - v. Displays - vendors
The electric and hybrid cars that have been secured are the Bolt, Volt, Tesla, Prius and Insight. Sharon will look for a Nissan and Ford, and Revell will look into an electric bike. The electric car presentation will be at noon. The displays currently known are The Last Green Valley’s Enviroscape, the slide show and display prepared by Ellen of Hampton alternative energy installations, EnergizeCT materials, light bulb distribution, and Hampton Elementary School contributions. A company that provides assessments for the Home Energy Solutions (HES) program is being sought.
 - vi. Food
Ev and Sharon will complete plans for a vendor to sell on site.
 - vii. Door Prizes
The list at this time includes a windmill kit, Kill-a-Watt, solar lights, a solar clothes dryer and two HES assessments.
 - viii. Tasks for event
Maryellen will work with the school to have access at 8:30 am and for tables, chairs, waste baskets, brooms, a microphone and projector.
 - ix. Signage
Maryellen will make signs for the tables. Sharon will provide the Walktober signs for the day of the event. Kate will tape off the parking lot in front of the multipurpose room for the cars.
6. New Business
- a. 100PercentCT- A Plan for 100% Renewable Energy in CT-tasks
Bernie Pellitier will be a guest speaker at the November meeting to explain the plan. PACE, People’s Action for Clean Energy, has gathered information from the assessor and electric bills.
 - b. September 30 Hampton Celebration tabling
Ellen volunteered to set up and break down the HGEC display. She and Maryellen will staff the table and are looking for another person to take part of the day which is 9 am-3pm.
 - c. Reappointment to Committee
Terms of all members except Rachel Girshick expire in January. Ellen indicated that she will serve through December, but is not requesting to be reappointed.
 - d. Review of town bills and discussion of solar projects
Members discussed the proposed plan to move the photovoltaic panels from the Firehouse roof to a ground mount at the Town Hall. The panels were installed at no cost to the town in 2009/10.

At the time of the Firehouse installation, the same array was placed on the Town Hall, also at no cost. Those panels were subsequently moved to a ground mount. The committee reviewed Town Hall kWh purchased from the grid during each month from January through August 2017 as well as sales. The kWh produced by the panels was not known during the meeting (sales to the grid are metered after use). In order to determine the kWh needed at Town Hall and the return on the cost invested in moving the panels, the committee will investigate the current production of the town hall panels, the benched marked data for Town Hall and what billing charges can be expected to be eliminated through increased solar production. (The Town Hall has a business account with

specific Demand Use charges for electricity beyond the first two KW when use exceeds the average use for 30 minutes or more during the month. This charge is imposed because the electric company must have that much available at any time.)

Given the reported cost to move the panels, there may be a better solar investment.

Motion: Ev Hyde moved, Sharon seconded, to advise the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance against moving the panels from the Firehouse roof to a ground mount at the Town Hall as an adequate return on investment has not been demonstrated. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Adjournment

Motion: Ellen Embardo moved, Revell Sandberg-Diment seconded, to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting ended at 9:05.

Respectfully submitted,

Maryellen Donnelly

Note: Minutes are draft until accepted at a subsequent HGEC meeting.