Hampton Green Energy Committee

Hampton, CT 06247

Meeting Draft Minutes

Wednesday, June 13, 2012

7:00 PM

Town Hall Conference Room

1. Roger Dionne's CHEVY VOLT SHOW AND TELL in Parking Lot

2. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kate Donnelly called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm. Committee members in attendance: Roger Dionne, Kate Donnelly, Maryellen Donnelly, Ev Hyde, Bob Marsh, and Revell Sandberg-Diment.

3. AUDIENCE FOR CITIZENS

None

4. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

CTCleanEnergyOptions program added under New Business.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: 5/9/12

Motion: Bob Marsh moved to accept the 5/9/12 minutes. Ev Hyde seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

6. OLD BUSINESS

a. Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority (CEFIA) Community Program solar system for Hampton Elementary School (HES)

The panels have been delivered. The inverters are in the panels. Installation will be after school is dismissed for the summer. 2. 4 kW or 2.88 kW can be added for the additional cost of \$8,000.

Motion: Maryellen Donnelly moved that the HGEC approach the Board of Selectmen to spend the full amount budgeted for solar for the 2012-13 fiscal year to pay for additional panels being installed on the Hampton Elementary School. Roger Dionne seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

b. Monitoring of HES solar systems

Data from monitoring the solar-thermal system has not recently been available on the web. The installer rather than the committee or school was receiving the request for renewal. The renewal, which is free, is currently being done.

The committee discussed the \$500 in this year's budget earmarked for educating Hampton residents about green energy and decided to direct

it toward education about the benefits of solar-thermal and photovoltaic systems. Data is available online for the solar-thermal system at HES. The pv system going up this summer includes a monitor and will provide accessible data. The committee feels that educating the school community about what is being produced at HES is important. In order to prominently and continuously display the data at HES, a web enabled device needs to be devoted to this purpose.

Motion: Ev Hyde moved that Hampton purchase a monitor &/or computer to monitor the solar installations at Hampton Elementary School. Revell Sandberg-Diment seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

For the future, committee members will continue to seek a company that will convert the data from the solar-thermal and pv monitoring systems to concepts more easily understood by elementary age children and other residents. We have only found companies that will do so for a high price (around \$20,000). The people that provide the current solar-thermal monitoring system say that others have asked for similar educational displays. (For an example of deck monitoring, see www.deckmonitoring.com).

c. Exterior lighting

Revell Sandberg-Diment spoke at the May Board of Education meeting about exterior lighting being on during hours when there is natural light and about the amount of exterior lighting. Maryellen Donnelly will ask for progress in addressing these issues during the June meeting.

The HGEC will formulate a recommendation to the Board of Selectmen about lighting in order to increase energy efficiency while accounting for safety, security, and liability at Town Hall. Current lighting is expensive, not adaptable to motion detectors and contributes to light pollution.

Committee members will research lighting that will include the following:

- LED alternatives, sensible because they use a small fraction of the energy compared with current lighting, last substantially longer, and are compatible with motion detectors
- Photo-sensitive switches, sensible because they automatically adjust to seasonal changes in natural light
- Motion detectors, sensible because they enhance security by turning on when there is outside activity

• New fixtures, sensible in reducing light pollution

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d. Education/Outreach

Committee members will read the Town of Hampton webpage in order to determine what HGEC content needs to be updated.

7. NEW BUSINESS

a. CTCleanEnergyOptions program

Those households that previously earned a point for Hampton by having signed up with Sterling will earn a point for Hampton by now signing up with Community Energy. (CTCommunityEnergyWindandSolar.com)
Choosing to pay the extra charge for 50% OR 100% of the kWh used per month is on the Community Energy flyer. However, only signing up for 100% appears online. Maryellen Donnelly has phoned the representative for our area to find out if contributing based on 50% of kWh used is possible.

8. AUDIENCE FOR CITITZENS

None

9. NEXT AGENDA PLANNING

Continuation of this agenda

10. ADJOURNMENT

Roger Dionne moved, Bob Marsh seconded, to adjourn at 8:30 pm. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Maryellen Donnelly