

**Hampton Green Energy Committee**

Hampton, CT 06247

**Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, March 9, 2016**

7:00 PM

Town Hall Conference Room

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Kate Donnelly called the meeting to order at 7:01. Committee members in attendance: Kate Donnelly, Ellen Embardo, Susan Lovegreen, Bob Marsh, Revell Sandberg-Diment and Sharon Wakely. Also in attendance were Alex Fox of C-Tec Solar, Allan Cahill, First Selectman, Randy Thompson, and Stan Crawford.

**2. AUDIENCE FOR CITIZENS**

None.

**3. Alex of C-Tec Solar will discuss solar at HES & garage**

Kate introduced Alex and explained we were having a problem with the solar at the elementary school and were also looking for an explanation of the bill.

Alex explained there were three issues with the system: 1. Due to an error in the engineering by Kaestle-Boos the fuse that was used was too small to handle the system. A custom made electrical fuse box is being made and the system is down while that is being done. 2. The second issue was from Eversource. Due to the size of the system there were some issues with the inverter and it had to be removed from the Z-Rec meter. Alex assured us this does not affect the town. CT Resource is taking the hit. 3. The third issue has to do with data monitoring. The monitoring went off-line and needs to be repaired. That will be done at the same time the new fuse box is put in.

Alex looked at the elementary school electric bill and will get further information for us to answer the questions that were put forward.

We currently don't have built up credits because of the time of year the system went online; so we are not seeing 100% coverage yet.

There was discussion of possible solar for the town garage through Z-Rec, where they would be placed and what other buildings may be able to use the power it may create. We would be eligible for a 45-50 kw installation, however only 20-22,000 kw/yr. is used at the garage. It was recommended an application be prepared ahead of time so if funds become available we would be prepared. No conclusions were reached at this time.

Stan questioned if we could go after Kaestle-Boos for non-performance. Alex said they are checking with Green Bank to reimburse our electric bill for the down time of the system.

#### **4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: 1/13/16**

**Motion:** Susan moved, Bob seconded, to approve the minutes of January 13, 2016. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **5. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

None

#### **6. OLD BUSINESS**

##### **a. Green Energy Webpage**

Ellen reported there were some minor changes made. She requested anyone hearing of any new solar applications in town to please let her know.

##### **b. Benchmarking Town buildings-elementary school energy use**

Revell reported he has updated the elementary school, he may still have to enter the oil usage. He is checking into whether new accounts for the other town buildings need to be set up or if he can enter new buildings to the current account. He is hoping to be able to just add buildings. Revell also looking for someone to go into the school with him to look at the energy usage.

##### **c. Curtain for Elementary School greenhouse**

Kate passed around samples from 2 companies with prices; Amcraft at \$447 and Akon at \$409. There are some funds in our budget to pay for them.

**Motion:** Susan moved, Ellen seconded, to allocate \$500 for material and labor to install a curtain for the greenhouse in the Hampton Elementary School media center. The school can choose vendor. The motion passed unanimously.

##### **d. Recycling Guidebook**

There was discussion on some of the different sections of the guidebook. Revell offered to assemble the different sections (everyone will email him their sections) and then send them to Ellen for editing. We have funds in the budget to print. Plans are to print approximately 800 copies.

#### **7. PLAN OF CONSERVATION**

Everett asked the committee to think about the energy section of the plan. The Conservation Committee was hoping someone would come to their meetings as a liaison. They are starting to look at the survey responses. Our committee should look at that section and make recommendations. Ev agreed to be our representative as he is there anyway.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion:** Revell moved, Bob seconded, to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.  
The meeting adjourned at 8:15.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Wakely

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