

**Cape Elizabeth Alternative Energy Committee**  
**Minutes: December 18, 2008**

**Present:** Wyman Briggs, Alan Lishness, Bill Slack, David Whitten

**Absent:** Peter Cotter, Ted Hawkes, Peter Ingraham, Sara Lennon, Ernie MacVane

**Guests:** Rick Fontana, Anne Holland

**I. Energy Audit Update**

- Bill reported that Mike sent a letter authorizing CM3 to go ahead with the energy audit. CM3 is to contact Ernie to get it going.

**II. Other Technologies to Consider**

- Bill is coordinating with Ernie on researching smaller scale solar PV options.
- Bill met with International Wood Fuels about an option for heat. They provide and install a pellet powered boiler at no cost to the town and the town agrees to buy fuel from them. He has asked them to make a pitch to the committee.

**III. The Report**

- The report will present what the alternatives look like from a net present value perspective, summarize what the committee has done, and provide a “parking lot” which will identify things the committee feels are worth considering, but has not had a chance to look into further.
- Bill reported that he will present to the council on January 12.
- Bill recapped what the report will discuss:
  - Energy Conservation
  - Geothermal (still awaiting analysis)
    - Chris report did not take into account cost of conversion.
  - Biomass
    - Still looks good from a NPV and CO2 standpoint
    - There was some discussion about wood potentially becoming like oil when the demand exceeds the supply.
  - Wind Turbine
    - There was some debate as to whether to recommend a small wind turbine.
    - Alan suggests that the committee has to decide if it wants to make recommendations for things that actually generate significant electricity or make suggestions for things that would serve as demonstration projects.
    - There was also discussion about whether or not the town would get behind a “real” windmill.
  - Solar PV at the School
    - Chris’ report discussed solar PV on a large scale and Bill feels it should be replaced with something more realistic.
    - There was debate as to whether or not to include smaller projects that require subsidies because they may not be the best long term solutions in the report.
- Bill reviewed the rates will be used in the report the different fuel types (agreed on at last meeting):
  - \$2.75 per gallon of oil (or 75 to \$80 per barrel)
  - \$0.15 per kilowatt of electricity
  - \$50 per ton of biomass

- \$250 per ton of pellets
- \$1.55 per therm of natural gas

#### **IV. Other Discussion**

- Bill feels the report needs to discuss solar PV and solar thermal.
  - Chris' report discussed displacing a certain amount of CO<sub>2</sub>, but it would be more appropriate to look into things on a smaller scale—such as solar thermal to heat the pool.
  - Bill suggests the committee make a recommendation, but not a strong recommendation for them.
- Alan thinks the committee should suggest a couple of big ideas that would really make a difference in Cape's energy usage.
- The committee has to find out the price for putting in a natural gas line.
- A discussion of LED lighting will be in the report. It was suggested that it would be nice to get a vendor to quote a price.
- Alan feels that the committee needs to push hard on energy generation and not just demonstration
- Bill stressed that every small energy conservation or efficiency is part of the solution.
- Dave suggested that it has to be looked at from an efficiency standpoint (cost per amount of efficiency gain).
- Alan thinks that longer range planning should be part of the report.
- The committee could make the case that investing in one or two big things may be the most economic thing to do—if you're going to have substantial savings, you're going to have substantial cost.
- The report will be presented the same night as the petition on Cool Cape and it was suggested that one of the Committees recommendations be to sign on the Mayor's Initiative.
- Wyman presented a policy approach known as the Kingdon model says that for any major public policy to happen there needs to be:
  - A galvanizing event
  - Feasible policies and a good plan
  - A strong and effective advocate

#### **V. Next Steps**

- Bill stressed the need to get the deliverable done. He has to present it at the January 12 City Council Meeting.
- Bill will incorporate the comments and add sections for the group to edit.
- Alan and Wyman will work on an executive summary.
- Bill will ask Mike to make copies for the committee.
- Mike will get a "pre-Council" draft.
- The group will edit using track changes.
- Alan suggested that there be case studies and sidebars included in the report. The following topics were suggested:
  - Samsø Island, Denmark
  - Wiscasset
  - Ann Arbor and LED lights
- Alan will write up case study about Samsø Island, Denmark