

Cape Elizabeth Alternative Energy Committee

Minutes: October 14, 2010

Present: Wyman Briggs, Alan Lishness, Bill Slack, David Whitten, Ernie McVane,
Absent: Ted Hawkes, Sarah Lennon, Kathy Ray

1. Energy Conservation Measures Update

Ernie McVane provided an update on energy conservation measures completed since the last meeting. Highlights included:

- A total of @ 10,000 light bulbs have been replaced in town buildings with the proceeds of the \$110,000 in Efficiency Maine grants awarded to Cape Elizabeth.
- Occupancy sensors have been installed in the remaining classrooms at the high school which shut down unnecessary lights, heating, and cooling in unoccupied classrooms.
- 20W LED outdoor lights have been installed at the fire station replacing much less efficient lighting
- 40W LED outdoor lights will be installed above the doors at the fire station.

2. Natural Gas Pipeline

The latest estimate received from Unitel indicates that it will cost @ \$1.4 million to pipe natural gas from the nearest pipeline in South Portland to Cape Elizabeth town center. It is also unclear whether there is sufficient pressure in the gas pipeline in South Portland to accommodate customers at Cape Elizabeth town center. Unitel does not appear to be strongly interested in pursuing this option.

3. Wind Measurement Progress

Wyman offered to contact Bob Malley, Public Works Director, to see if he can access the wind data that has been recorded by the anemometer installed on the Strout property with support from the Town. He will also see if this data can be analyzed to determine if adequate wind has been measured over the past six months to merit continued consideration of wind turbine installation.

4. Solar Thermal Proposal

Solar Thermal options were briefly discussed for installation at the public works or one of the schools. David Whitten has expertise in this area and will consider potential options.

5. Boilers

The boiler replacement project that the committee recommended to the Town Council is moving forward. Options under consideration include replacing the current two outdated, oversized, inefficient boilers with 2 or 3 smaller, more efficient boilers. The AEC would like to get a briefing on options under consideration before the proposal is finalized since the committee was engaged in the initial boiler replacement considerations.

6. On-going Conservation Efforts

Ernie updated the committee on projects in the works and under consideration to update sidewalk lighting, install new controls at the fire department, install new parking lot lights around the school and town buildings, and insulate town hall and high school classrooms.

7. Efficiency Maine Trust

Several members noted that Efficiency Maine is currently well funded and open to supporting well justified projects. Members will continue to monitor for potential opportunities.

8. New Committee Chair

Bill Slack noted that after serving as the AEC Chair since its inception it was time for him to step down. He is interested in continuing to serve as an active committee member. Wyman Briggs was nominated by several members and offered to assume the role of AEC Chair for the next year.

9. Plan for November AEC Meeting

The next meeting will include a discussion of “Where do we go from here?” as a AEC – including identifying priorities for the next year. The process for soliciting new members of the committee and how to get more connected with Alternative Energy initiatives at the Cape Elizabeth Schools will be discussed.

10. Schedule for Next Meeting

Wyman will send out a doodle schedule for the November meeting.