

TOWN OF MANSFIELD  
Sustainability Committee  
Minutes of the Meeting  
Thursday, September 8, 2011

Present: Stoddard (chair), Miller, Sherman, Hart, Linda Painter (guest), Bill Hammon (guest), Walton (staff)

Stoddard called the meeting to order at 5:02.

The minutes from the July 14, 2011 meeting were reviewed.

Bill Hammon reported on municipal energy saving projects. Last year about 6,000 bulbs were upgraded from fluorescent T-8 bulbs to super T-8s. They use 7 to 8 watts less than the T-8s. All the major town buildings now have energy management systems. Projects identified with a one to two year payback have been completed. Until it is known how long the elementary schools will be operating, no upgrades are planned. Sherman added that the high school science wing has clerestory lighting. The maintenance department is working on projects with a 5 to 6 year payback. Fire station 107 is getting a propane condensing boiler that should cut energy usage in half. Hammon would like to put a condensing boiler in the town hall. Sherman asked about using thermal curtains - Hammon will investigate. Hammon added that this fall DCS Energy will be installing solar panels on the four schools. Vinton, Goodwin, Middle School will each receive 9 kilowatt photovoltaic systems, and Southeast will receive two 9 kilowatt systems. It is estimated that the Town will save about \$150 per month per system.

Miller reported that the bonding of the UConn Tech Park has been celebrated and now the federal Environmental Impact Evaluation for North Hillside Road is expected to be finalized this fall. The first building will be state bond money and owned by the University.

Hart reported that the town attorney has been asked to write a Mansfield Hollow hydro purchase power contract from the term agreement that the Shifrin's supplied. It was suggested that as the process moves further along, that the League of Women Voters be enlisted to inform the community of this project.

Walton reported that Hertz has been awarded the car sharing contract with the University of Connecticut. It is anticipated that car sharing will begin in October with four cars strategically located on the UConn campus. As the program gains users, additional cars will be added, including one located in the municipal lot. Currently the type of vehicles to be supplied is being negotiated, with zero/low emissions and high miles per gallon as criteria.

Painter reported that a contractor for the Four Corners Environmental Impact Statement has been selected. She stated that she is applying for a HUD Community Challenge Planning Grant to fund:

- Creation of an Economic Development and Housing Strategy for the Town including a master plan for the northern part of Mansfield, which will incorporate Four Corners and address transit oriented development
- Identification of barriers to sustainable design and green building in town ordinances and regulations
- Revisions to the zoning and subdivision regulations based on the recommendations and findings of the sustainability assessment and economic development and housing strategies.

All project activities would be completed within 3 years of the grant award. The sustainability committee agreed to write a letter of support by the grant deadline of September 16, 2011.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 13, 2011.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:43 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Virginia Walton