

TOWN OF MANSFIELD
Energy Education Team
Minutes of the Meeting
March 8, 2011

Present: Sally Milius (acting chair), Pene Williams, Coleen Spurlock, Madeline Priest (guest), Jenna Zelentz (guest), Jefferson Crawford (guest), Virginia Walton (staff)

Sally called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm.

The minutes from the February 8, 2011 meeting were approved.

Pene reported that the Home Energy Resource Sheet has been updated. Two energy bills are moving through the state legislature – one related to electrical energy data gathering and the other about expanding the use of solar energy credits.

Madeline reported that the Neighbor to Neighbor official launch will be March 22, 2011 in Hartford. An unofficial launch is being planned for Windham, Mansfield & Lebanon in mid April. The committee recommended having it at the Windham Textile Musuem (rain) or in the Garden On The Bridge (shine). Madeline explained the type of awards and prizes that will be available through the community rewards program. Individuals who earn points will be featured on facebook and help the town qualify for prizes. Any Mansfield energy news should be forwarded to Jenna or Jeff to post on the Mansfield page of the “ctenergychallenge” website. Ginny will work on linking “ctenergychallenge” to the Mansfield website. Madeline, Jenna, Jeff and Ginny interviewed on two different channel 14 programs about the Neighbor to Neighbor challenge. Over 100 Mansfield residents have signed up for Neighbor to Neighbor. Committee members agreed to re-contact targeted groups that have not met with Madeline yet. Ginny will forward the list of groups divided up among the Energy Team.

To celebrate Earth Day, the Energy Team will have a table at UConn’s spring fling on April 21 that will compliment the Neighbor to Neighbor program. Ginny will look into borrowing DEP’s energy game and Sally will put together energy usage data appropriate for college students. Ginny will check into having a few tables at one of the first Storrs farmers market, in early May. The “energy corner” could include Gail Kefle, who makes drying racks, Neighbor to Neighbor, and the Energy Team promoting CleanEnergyOptions. Sally will look into a ceremonial tree planting by EcoHouse. Walton will see if the Solar Harvester, a portable PV unit, is available from Clean Energy Fund for either or both events.

Pene will approach Curt Vincente about hosting a series of presentation at the Community Center. One of the topics of interest is Transition Towns. Madeline suggested contacting Judy Friedman from PACE as she will have names of transition town speakers.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 12, 2011. The meeting was adjourned 8:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Virginia Walton