

Town of Mansfield  
Energy Education Team  
Minutes of Meeting  
June 14, 2011

Present: Coleen Spurlock (acting chair), Dennison Nash, Pene Williams, Sally Milius, Virginia Walton (staff)

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm by acting chair Coleen Spurlock.

The minutes of the May 17, 2011 were reviewed and accepted.

Walton reported on the EO Smith ribbon cutting on May 19 for the additional 3 kilowatt rooftop solar panels earned through CleanEnergyOptions sign ups.

The Neighbor to Neighbor local launch was on May 21. Mansfield was challenged by the Town of Windham to increase the number of household bulb retrofits from 14 to 30 by the end of June. The team decided to have a table outside of the Mansfield Community Center on a Saturday morning, probably July 9, 2011. Sally will arrange the details and Coleen offered to help that day. Walton will find out if there is internet access immediately outside of the Community Center.

Coleen reported that there were about 40 people at the DIY Solar presentation on June 6. About half of the attendees were from other communities. The presenter, Martin Fox, plans to offer an 8 to 10 week class through the Community Center on how to build a solar system. It was suggested that Dr. Fox be asked to present the Introduction to DIY Solar again.

Sally stated that resident Peter Governale has offered to facilitate do-it-yourself energy efficiency classes through the Community Center.

Walton reported that there is \$303.43 left in the Community Innovations grant to allocate to an organization who will promote CleanEnergyOptions. Sally volunteered to approach the community service club at the Community Center. Using a successful idea from another town, the community service club might ask residents to sign up for CleanEnergyOptions and in return donate \$10 to a charity of their choice.

Pene gave a report on upcoming meetings that have been posted through the 20by2010 clean energy google group. Walton will be attending the Connecticut Municipal Climate Network Workshop on Monday, June 20, 2011.

Sally asked if the team would be interested in participating in Moving Planet on Sept 24 – a day dedicated to move beyond fossil fuels. September 24, 2011 coincides with the Celebrate Mansfield weekend. Some ideas included offering bicycle taxis during the weekend, making hand cranked ice cream, or pressing cider. Biking as an alternative mode of transportation could have a presence during the Festival parade. These ideas will be revisited at the next meeting.

Dan Britton is no longer available to attend the meetings. Coleen Spurlock volunteered to serve as the chairperson.

Walton presented a proposal from TitanEnergy, an energy broker, offering 100% “green” residential electrical service through Direct Energy (a competitor to CL&P). The green energy is from Texas wind power. Although the per kilowatt hour price is lower than CL&P, it was decided that participating in this agreement would be working against the CleanEnergyOptions program, which is dedicated to adding clean sources of power to the New England grid.

A Transition Towns program is scheduled for Tuesday, July 26, 2011. Flyers were distributed. Members were asked to promote it. Publicity and press releases have been sent out.

Coleen has formed an informal group called the FrackPack, focused on the issues related to natural gas hydrologic fracturing. She will keep the team abreast of their efforts.

It was suggested that Roger Smith be asked to attend a future meeting to talk about recruiting new members. Walton will follow up with him.

The next meeting is scheduled for July 12, 2011. The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Virginia Walton