

Town of Mansfield  
Energy Education Team  
Minutes of Meeting  
September 13, 2011

Present: Coleen Spurlock (chair), Dennison Nash, Sally Milius, Don Hoyle, Madeline Priest (Neighbor to Neighbor), Ginny Walton (staff)

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 pm by chair Coleen Spurlock.

The minutes of the August 9, 2011 were reviewed and accepted.

Madeline reported that nobody showed up for the Neighbor to Neighbor Community group meeting on September 7, 2011. It was probably due to the fact that the letter was not sent out from the Town Manager's office. Ginny will line up another date and location and will mail the letters from the Town Manager. On September 10, 2011 Neighbor to Neighbor hosted a leadership development program in which six of the 14 towns participated.

Ginny handed out flyers for the "Moving Planet" rally in New Haven, CT on September 24, 2011. Don reported that other events are happening that day, which can be found on the 350ct.org website. For the Mansfield Moving Planet celebration, Sally has lined up a brigade of bikes for the September 25 Festival on the Green parade at noon. Sally will find out if 350.org has a banner. If not, members decided that the banner used for the parade and later for the table activity should read "Moving Beyond Fossil Fuels". Sally has a hand washing station for the Festival table, lined up a hand crank ice cream maker and a volunteer to help make the ice cream. The Neighbor to Neighbor folks will bring a canopy for the table. It was suggested that Sally's daughter and her friends who will be volunteering that day decide if they want to have a cider press with the hand crank ice cream. If a cider press is part of the day, then Dennison will supply the apples.

Madeline reported that 15 Home Energy Solutions vendors have been selected and four of them will be providing service for eastern Connecticut. The four vendors include, Lantern Energy, Victory Energy, New England Conservation Services and Competitive Resources. The Deeper Energy Savings presentation is tomorrow in conference room B of the Town Hall. 266 residents in Mansfield have signed up to make energy improvements through the Neighbor to Neighbor program. Of those, 22 need a follow-up phone call. This list was divided among the members to make a follow-up connection.

Coleen reported that there is an initiating group of 20 people who are planning the Transition Towns training. Because of scheduling conflicts, the training will be held in the spring 2012 rather than this fall. Beginning September 22, the initiating group will be studying the Transitions Town Handbook in Room 404 in Beech Hall (UConn). Don stated that he will be delivering the video of the July 26 Transition Towns presentation to cable access television.

Walton stated that the Clean Energy Communities program is being revised as a collaborative effort between the Energy Efficiency Fund and Clean Energy Fund. The proposed new "eeCommunities" program has unrealistic thresholds to reach in order to be awarded incentives. The Energy Education Team has been asked to send a letter to both funds commenting on some of the complexities of the proposed new program.

A flyer for an Energy and Sustainability Fair at RHAM High School on Saturday, November 12, 2011 from 9 am to noon was circulated.

Coleen stated that the Solar Energy at Home classes begin on Wednesday, September 21. When she registered, two people were signed up. Please get the word out.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 11, 2011. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Virginia Walton