

Energy & Water Conservation Committee
Meeting Minutes
March 19, 2008
5:00 PM

Attendees: Town Manager Sutton, David Beaudin, WT Bishop, Pat Romprey, Edwin Fredie, John Hettinger, Samantha Berreondo, Jim Spanos, Jay Polimeno and Stacey Boyce

Town Manager Sutton opened the meeting by introducing Edwin Fredie as the Chairman. He stated he was please Mr. Fredie was taking the position of Chairman and turned the meeting over to him.

Chairman Fredie thanked Town Manager Sutton and stated the next order of business would be to find someone to be Co-Chair of the committee. Mr. Kelley said he would. Chairman Fredie read the draft mission statement. Mr. Beaudin asked if the word water could be added to the statement. It was agreed to make a change to the mission statement to say "energy, water and natural resources". WT Bishop made a **motion** to accept the draft mission statement as revised; seconded by Pat Romprey.

Mr. Polimeno said he spoke with the Woodstock Planning Board to see if they were interested in partaking in this committee. The Woodstock Planning Board agreed it would be a good thing to get involved in and asked that Mr. Polimeno represent them. It was recommended to put the project before the Woodstock Board of Selectmen, which Mr. Polimeno will do.

Mr. Polimeno said that what brought Miss Berreondo and himself to this committee was to get the Future Business Leaders of America involved and possibly use some of the projects as fund-raisers for the FBLA. Mr. Polimeno stated it would be recommended to send out 2,000 mailings on energy efficient products, which they are waiting for a pricing list from the New Hampshire Electric Cooperative. Mr. Polimeno said the FBLA would do the mailing, make the letterhead for the mailings and the envelopes. He said the Rotary club will fund this first mailing. Mr. Polimeno said if the FBLA did the mailing they would like to do it around April 22nd, which is Earth Day.

Town Manger Sutton said he has already experienced the "power" committees such as this one have. He would highly recommend getting Woodstock involved and having an energy audit performed within their town as well.

Mr. Robbins said there have been discussions with the Coop regarding putting together a one page summary stating the advantages of this program and the options that are available to people. Mr. Polimeno said the Coop isn't willing to fund this project. Mr. Robbins said a few of the committee members should set up a meeting with the Coop to explain more of the program, as there is money to be given.

Mr. Spanos asked what the discounted prices were going to be on the bulbs. Mr. Polimeno responded they did not have those figures at this time.

Mr. Bishop asked if the plan Mr. Polimeno was proposing with the FBLA would be put on Channel 3. Mr. Polimeno responded that was a great idea.

Chairman Freddie asked what the proceeds from the fund-raiser would be used for. Mr. Polimeno said the proceeds would help the FBLA attend seminars and provide some future work with the energy problems, allowing for more reductions.

Co-Chair Kelley said that even if 8% of the 2,000 mailings sent were replied, these bulbs are something that people need to get used to as it is a very different type of light. Mr. Polimeno agreed.

Mr. Bishop said there is an energy meeting on April 5th and there were spaces to set up a table for information if that was something the committee wanted him to do.

Mr. Romprey said Sylvania, Westinghouse and GE have websites that people can print coupons off for light bulbs. Mr. Romprey asked who the bulbs were going to be purchased through. Mr. Polimeno said they would be purchased through EFI, which is who the Coop uses.

Co-Chair Kelley recommended doing price comparing for the bulbs. Mr. Polimeno said he is a bit uncomfortable bypassing the Chamber and the Coop by doing price comparisons at this time, as that is how this project was originally conceived. Chairman Freddie agreed. He asked Mr. Polimeno and Miss Berreondo to keep the committee apprised on the status of the project.

Mr. Robbins said he thinks it is wonderful that kids are getting involved with this program, as they and these types of bulbs are the future. Mr. Robbins said on March 5th some of the Committee members met with a representative from the Coop for the start of the town energy audit. Town Manager Sutton said there would be a “road map” from the Coop to help the town know the time frame to complete the recommended projects.

Mr. Romprey asked if the streetlights were included in the audit. Mr. Robbins said those were not done at this time but they would be.

Mr. Hettinger recommended finding some experts who can explain the benefits of all resources; gas, electricity and oil.

Chairman Freddie asked if there was any old business. There was none. New business recommended would be to search from some experts as recommended.

Co-Chair Kelley said there are a number of things that people can do everyday to conserve energy such as turning off the water while brushing your teeth. When the newsletter is constructed tips like these would be great as part of that.

Next meeting is April 16th. Chairman Freddie adjourned the meeting.