

Minutes of the Energy and Water Conservation Committee 5/20/2009

Present for this meeting were: Roz Lowen
Peter Josephs, part of time
Marty Robbins
W.T. Bishop
Tom Smith, part of the time
Jim Spanos
Lutz Wallem, chair

1. The Committee approved the minutes of the last meeting held 4/15/2009 unanimously.
2. Some members of this Committee could only attend this meeting part of the time because a Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting had been scheduled for the same date and time at the Town Hall.
3. The guest speaker for this meeting of our committee was Bob Tortorice (pronounced Tortoricey), a certified NH builder, a certified Energy Star Builder, a Green Professional Builder (NAHB), a Certified Building Analysis Professional, Gold, Silver and Bronze Energy Green Building Winner, and an Energy Auditor and Improvement Contractor who has been “building Energy Efficient Homes for over 20 years!” He lives in Franconia and has educated many people in New England on these modern issues of the construction trade.
4. Bob’s talk had been advertised on Channel 3 here in Lincoln for about a month, but unfortunately no residents of the area were able to attend this very valuable educational meeting.
5. It seems that energy conservation is still a subject many people do not take seriously enough, especially in the spring. The cold weather has been forgotten and people are happy not to have to deal with energy issues and heating fuel bills. But the next winters will come for sure and heating costs could go up and up. We planned this meeting in the spring so

people could learn now what they should possibly improve before the next winter. The members of our Committee who attended learned a lot and enjoyed the meeting immensely.

6. A long time member of this Committee, Marty Robbins, who resides at Clearbrook, was able to attend and contribute greatly to us trying to solve a big problem which many of our condominium owners have: The insufficient insulation and improper execution of proper construction plans, although well meant at that time when these condos were built.
7. Our speaker, Bob Tortorice, had brought along a contractor from Danbury, NH, whose name is Doug Colby, and who does a lot of the work Bob recommends with his energy audits. This gentleman is a specialist in insulation and Bob has come to trust him and his work very much.
8. Marty Robbins explained what the condition of his condo is and how he had done a walk-through with Bill Johnstone of NH Electric Co-op last year when our local utility company had made an effort to do some “energy audits” in Lincoln, NH.
9. Bob and Marty discussed during our meeting what “energy audits” done by Bob Tortorice would cost:

Walk around	\$ 250.00
Walk around incl. scaling	\$ 300.00
Incl the use of infra red Camera and subsequent production of printouts	\$ 500.00
	\$ 600.00

He will of course produce written reports after the Energy Audit if requested by the condo owner.

10. We developed the following plan during this mtg.:
 - a) Marty Robbins would order an Energy Audit to be done by Bob Tortorice and pay for it himself.
 - b) Marty would then enter into an agreement with Doug from Danbury, NH, to do the recommended work provided the price is acceptable.

- c) Bob would then produce a few energy audit reports which would be adaptable to the different sizes of condos at Clearbrook.
 - d) These would be presented at the next Home Owners Association Meeting of Clearbrook to be held in the early fall.
 - e) Owners could then discuss the success of better insulation with Marty Robbins and Bob Tortorice who by that time would have had experience with the conditions at Clearbrook and the way the recommended work was being performed by Doug.
11. Now those owners ready to do similar improvement work with Doug could also contract with him if they so desired.
 12. This model could serve as an example for other developments in Town to do the same.
 13. This way one development after the other or, contemporaneously with additional contractors, could be upgraded and start saving energy costs and reduce pollution significantly.
 14. Did you know that all units at Clearbrook are being heated with electricity only? 200 units
 15. We discussed available rebate programs for electrically heated units.
 16. Doug explained that he applies injection foam from the outside. It's water based and non-toxic.
 17. Paybacks for amortizing the energy efficiency upgrades through energy savings in 7 years are apparently acceptable.
 18. Another interesting fact we learned was that the greatest heat loss is between floors and walls, even on interior walls which are cold from the cellar up by drawing the cold up from the cellar.
 19. Single pane windows are R-1, double pane with argon inside are only R-3.

20. Peter Joseph asked Bob to supply our Town Offices with an estimate what an energy audit done by him would cost.
21. This Energy and Water Conservation Committee meeting was held in the Town Manager's office and lasted till 7:30pm.
22. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 6/17, at 5pm as usual.