



ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SUBCOMMITTEE

Weston Building Committee

Minutes of January 15, 2008, 7:30pm, Commission Room

Present: Bill Rappoport, Allen Swerdlowe, Lincoln Briggs, Don Gary, Richard Wolf; also in attendance, First Selectman Woody Bliss; Margaret Wirtenberg (address, telephone, e-mail of all below).

The meeting began with introductions all around. Three members of the Building Committee (Allen, Don and Richard) explained why it was necessary to meet as a sub-committee--the Building Committee itself is taken up with overseeing a number of large projects, and doesn't have time to devote to this.

Community members (lawyer/grant writer and engineer) responded to the newspaper solicitation, and were in attendance.

After brief discussion, Allen Swerlowe offered to Chair. this sub-committee, and there was unanimous agreement that he should do so.

Discussion ensued on the range of realistic options available to Weston (photovoltaics and fuel cell). It was agreed that the schools campus and flat roofed buildings were the best sites for installations.

Sources of funding were discussed, these being the grants available from the State of CT and its several energy programs. First Selectman Bliss pointed out the need for prompt action if Weston wished to take advantage of government funding.

Don Gary discussed taking a two-pronged approach--grants for photovoltaics for the high school, and sending out an RFP that was already prepared. Lincoln Briggs discussed the Business Energy Tax Credit program with which he is familiar, and how it might apply to photovoltaic arrays at the high school. He also presented documents for review from the CT Clean Energy Fund website.

Bliss then proposed that a timeline for action be prepared. It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on Thursday, January 31, 2008 at 7:30pm in the Commission Room.

TIMELINE: Before the next meeting, a visit to Bigelow Tea in Fairfield will be arranged (Saturday, January 26) to see their alternative energy installation. Assignments for the members includes the following:

1. check warrantee on the high school roof;
2. check with Shipman and Goodwin (who prepared the RFP noted above);
3. review electrical interconnections at the high school;
4. roofing design at high school coordination with array--check with H.B. Fishman;
5. review other municipalities' RFP's (from CCM)
6. Connecticut Clean Energy Fund ("CCEF") engineer (Pat O'Neill) be contacted/consulted.

NEXT MEETING: January 31, 2008 at 7:30pm in the Commission Room. Agenda to include interviews with engineers who can help guide the Committee; intention to send out an RFP no later than March 1, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

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