

TOWN OF MANSFIELD
Sustainability Committee
Minutes of the Meeting
June 9, 2011

Present: Stoddard (chair), Sherman, Loxsom, Hart, Miller, Matthews, Miriam Kurland (guest), Keri Rowley (guest), Linda Painter (guest), Virginia Walton (staff)

Stoddard called the meeting to order at 5:06 pm.

The minutes from the May 14, 2011 meeting were approved on a motion from Miller/Hart.

Hart reported that the back of Jensen's property has been identified as the preferred site for a sewer system pump station to serve the development around the Four Corners area. Bill Lennon is being appointed to serve on the Four Corners Advisory Committee. Miller added that state funding allocated for UConn's Tech Park includes money to build a water supply system for the Four Corner development. A scoping meeting for additional water supply sources will be held on June 28 at 7 pm in room 104 of the UConn Student Union. The committee discussed attending and submitting written comment by the July 7, 2011 deadline.

Walton reported on a successful local launch of the Neighbor to Neighbor energy challenge. Mansfield has been challenged to increase the number of households to receive a free bulb retrofit to 30 by the end of June (to date 14 have been done). Walton will send the bulb retrofit flyer to committee members so that they can promote it. Sherman will publicize to the EO Smith High School community. Matthews will hand out the flyer in her neighborhood.

The committee reviewed municipal buildings energy graphs that included the energy use per square foot and energy use per square foot per hours of building occupancy. The committee identified next steps: 1) keeping data updated, 2) asking Bill Hammon, Director of Maintenance, to analyze the data and attend the August meeting, 3) filling in details of each building's energy history and 4) better data tracking, especially school bus fuel usage. Ultimately this information will be used to create a climate action plan.

Rowley reported on the Mansfield Hollow hydro project. She stated that although there is no longer qualified energy conservation bond (QECB) money available, more money may be allocated to this type of bond. The Town's financial advisor and town bond attorney are reviewing the Mansfield Hollow hydro project. If the project qualifies for a QECB and money is available, then bond funding will need to go through the referendum process. Hart will contact the Shifrins about making a presentation to the Town Council. The Committee will submit a letter of support if Hart deems it necessary. Hart will find out if the Shifrins are still interested in a purchase power agreement should bonding not work out. Walton will reschedule a tour of the Kirby Mill.

Walton announced two upcoming programs - home energy basics on June 28, 2011 at 7 pm in the Community Center and an introduction to transition towns on July 26, 7 pm at the Mansfield Town Hall. Flyers were circulated.

Miller gave a report on UConn's sustainability activities. A pre-bid conference was held earlier in the week as part of a joint Town and UConn effort to bring car sharing to the area. The RFP states that at

least one of the car sharing vehicles should be all electric. Both the Town and UConn are installing an electric car charging station donated from CL&P. UConn also received a DOT grant to get an electric van. Miller is working on a purchase power agreement with UTC for a hydrogen fuel cell at the Depot campus, which will take the campus off the grid and provide heat for many of the facilities. UConn is in the midst of retro-commissioning 34 buildings with an expected savings of \$500,000 per year.

The next meeting is scheduled for July 14, 2011. The meeting was adjourned 6:40 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Virginia Walton