

Town of Mansfield
Energy Education Team
Minutes of Meeting
August 9, 2011

Present: Coleen Spurlock (chair), Dennison Nash, Pene Williams, Don Hoyle, Madeline Priest (Neighbor to Neighbor), Ginny Walton (staff), Bob Senatro (guest)

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm by chair Coleen Spurlock.

The minutes of the July 12, 2011 were reviewed and accepted.

On July 14, 2011 Sam and Michelle Shifrin, owners of the Kirby Mill, gave a fascinating tour of the renovated Mill and the slated location for the hydro system to the members of the Sustainability Committee and the Energy Education Team.

The Team discussed the Transition Towns presentation on July 26, 2011. An article appeared in the Chronicle and the entire talk will appear on cable access television, Channel 14. Having polled ten individuals at the end of the presentation, Dennison reported that their critiques centered on too much time spent on the problems facing us and not enough time spent on the specifics of how the transition towns process works. Ginny will relay this feedback to the presenter, Tina Clarke. Coleen stated that 55 people have expressed interest in the Transition Towns training. Coleen is working with a few other people to arrange training in the fall. Don will be talking to the local CSA about transition towns on August 14, 2011.

Ginny reported on Sally's progress with "Moving Planet" activities on the weekend of September 24 and 25, 2011. Sally has located a hand crank ice cream maker and a cider press. The Team was asked to consider the type of signage for the table at the Festival on the Green and bring ideas to the next meeting. Nobody on the committee has a cooler with a faucet that stays open. The Neighbor to Neighbor folks will be sharing a table with the Energy Education Team. The idea of a "Hike with a Bike" led tour of Mansfield's bike routes on September 24, 2011 was appealing to members. Sally will see if someone from Thread City Cyclers is interested in leading the bike tour.

Don showed the Team the newest Neighbor to Neighbor poster which features Don's energy improvement efforts. This poster will circulate the Town buildings along with the stand-alone banner. Madeline reported that there are 50 to 60 Mansfield residents who have expressed interest in a Home Energy Solutions audit, but have either not followed through or the vendor has not reported completions. Madeline suggested having a "Call Night" where the Team makes follow-up phone calls to those individuals. One possibility is overlapping "Call Night" with the next meeting. A new Americorp intern may be working with the Town of Mansfield starting in September. The Neighbor to Neighbor leadership workshop, originally scheduled for July 23, 2011, has been rescheduled for September 10, 2011 in Wethersfield. Madeline has been working with the Town Manager's office to prepare a letter to Mansfield community groups inviting them to

attend a presentation on the Neighbor to Neighbor Energy Challenge. Ginny will find out when the Buchanan Library is available in September for a 5:30 presentation. Coleen reported that the Mansfield Community Center brochure will be released this week. There are two offerings of special note. First, Martin Fox's classes on building a PV system, and second, A Deeper Energy Savings workshop on September 14, 2011 where residents who have had a home energy solutions audit can sit down one-on-one with a home energy solutions vendor to discuss next steps in retrofits.

Members signed thank notes that Coleen circulated. One of them will be delivered to Dan Britton and the others to the children who helped on July 9, 2011 to recruit bulb retrofits outside of the Community Center. Pene suggested that the children be asked to participate in the Moving Planet activities.

Madeline stated that recruiting new members will be discussed at the September 10, 2011 leadership workshop. The best way to enlist new members is to identify community groups that are interested in Neighbor to Neighbor.

Dennison reported that as the incentive for solar thermal systems has gotten larger so has Mansfield Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation's interest. He will keep the committee informed of any progress.

The next meeting is scheduled for September 13, 2011. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Virginia Walton