

Town of Mansfield
Energy Education Team
Minutes of the Meeting
December 13, 2011

Present: Coleen Spurlock (chair), Don Hoyle, Sally Milius, Madeline Priest (Neighbor to Neighbor), Kevin Donahue (Neighbor to Neighbor), Raquel Kennedy (guest), Paul Keyes (guest), Ginny Walton (staff)

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 by chair Coleen Spurlock.

The minutes from the November 8, 2011 meeting were reviewed and accepted.

Madeline introduced Raquel Kennedy and Paul Keyes from Victory Energy Solutions, a Home Energy Solutions (HES) vendor. They are interested in working with the team to boost participation in the Neighbor to Neighbor Energy Challenge. They anticipate working with Doug Perkins at the Middle School through the school robotics team.

Several other ideas were discussed:

1. Have Mansfield Town Council challenge Windham Town Council in a friendly competition;
2. Create a video highlighting Mansfield's Neighbor to Neighbor efforts and show it at the local movie theaters;
3. Challenge primary school students to ask 4 neighbors to sign-up - give out prizes;
4. Canvas a dense neighborhood (Freedom Green/Eastbrook Heights) in the spring during one of the meetings;
5. Create an extreme energy make-over with a local celebrity hosting it;
6. Choreograph a flash mob.

Madeline will send out the list of ideas for members to comment on and volunteer for. The transition initiative may want to team up with Neighbor to Neighbor for some of these events. Madeline reported that Kevin will be making flyers for the upcoming energy basics programs. Volunteers will be needed to distribute the flyers. Madeline stated that there are two special Neighbor to Neighbor offerings, the Share the Warmth Campaign, where a blanket will be donated to a child in foster care for those who insulate their homes and, HES for the Holidays, making energy audit gift certificates available.

Coleen reported that the Energy Education Team will be hosting a transition town training on January 7 and 8, 2012 at the Mansfield Town Hall. The cost is \$115; there are scholarships and work exchange available. So far 15 people have registered. There needs to be 35 registrants in order to cover the cost of the trainers. The registration deadline is December 22, 2011.

Ginny was approached by resident, George Rawitcher, about a Climate Impact, Mitigation and Adaptation program that will be offered for UConn students and staff from March 26 to 29, 2012. The group he is working with would like to offer a program on Tuesday night, March 27, for residents. They discussed having a two hour program starting with a presentation by Mark Hertsgaard, followed by reports from the Mansfield

sustainability committee and possibly the transition group. The last part of the evening would be small group discussions. Members seemed amenable to this idea.

The Team agreed to meet on the first Tuesdays of the month for calendar year 2012. Ginny will schedule the room and send out a notice with the dates to members.

Ginny reported that a regional energy task force meeting is being planned with focus on regional collaboration, recruiting volunteers, sharing successes and becoming an energy resilient region. The date is scheduled for Saturday, January 21, 2012 with a snow date of February 11, 2012. The Mansfield Town Hall is one possible meeting venue. If Mansfield does host this, then Ginny will be calling upon volunteers to help with set-up and clean-up.

The next meeting will be scheduled for January 3, 2012.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Virginia Walton