



RECV'D: Office of the Town Clerk Feb. 5, 2015 3:00pm

Agenda for February 3, 2015: Durham Public Library Activity Room at 7:00 PM

1. Kickoff Conference Call with Marianne Graham
2. CCM's LED Lighting Program
3. Power Purchasing Agreements
4. Bright Ideas Grant
5. Home Energy Solutions Award
6. Electric Car Charging Station
7. Bike-Ped Plan
8. Miscellaneous Business

Minutes:

Attendance: Thomas Kannam, Ron Capozzi, Hannah Bober, Paul Griese, Leslie Bulion, Susan Michael, Marilyn Keurajian, Jen Huddleston

Public Guests: Pauline Webb, Donia Viola, Marie Wilde

1. Kickoff Conference Call with Marianne Graham

Marianne Graham is the consultant hired by CL&P to implement its Municipal Benchmarking program. Laura Francis has assembled a Durham Green Team from the municipal staff to build upon past audits and asked the CE&STF to support this effort. By participating in this initiative and completing the benchmarking binder, the Town of Durham will earn clean community points which will translate into grant money later. Paul mentioned to Marianne that the Town of

Durham had started some municipal benchmarking three years ago. Marianne asked if she could receive electronic copies of any existing reports in order to prioritize what work needs to be done. The initial objective is energy efficiency.

Marianne added that her firm has a mechanical engineer that performs a walk-through audit. The process takes about two hours and tracks the major equipment of municipal buildings: HVAC, energy management systems, etc. One new element of the program is that a CL&P engineer will accompany the auditor.

Marianne's next community workshop is Tuesday, February 10th from 9:00 AM-3:00 at CL&P in Berlin. Hannah Bober agreed to attend the event and be the representative for the program's biweekly calls.

2. CCM's LED Lighting Program

Tom reported that three providers were selected by CCM's selection committee for its LED Street Lighting Program. Ron, Rick and David have been reviewing their proposals. Solux mentioned that their firm would need to do an inventory of all the street lights before finalizing a plan for the Town of Durham. Ron explained that there are still questions about how state roads play into the program.

3. Power Purchasing Agreements

The Town of Durham has negotiated and signed a Power Purchasing Agreement (PPA) with Greenskies Renewable Energy to install solar panels at Durham's Firehouse. This small ZREC project is likely to be completed in February.

The Town of Durham is still negotiating a PPA with Greenskies Renewable Energy for the other ZREC project. After the PPA is signed, then a full engineering study of the Haddam Quarter/Brick Lane site can be completed. Each PPA has an "out-clause" for the Town of Durham if the necessary permits and approvals are not secured.

4. Bright Ideas Grant

Sue reiterated the group's intent to use the Town of Durham's Bright Ideas grant to facilitate that acquisition and installation of an electric car charging station. Tom confirmed with CT's Green Bank and the clean communities program that this idea is a qualified use of the funds.

5. Home Energy Solutions (HES) Award

Laura Francis contacted Tom to inform him that the Town of Durham will be receiving a significant check for CE&STF's participation in the Home Energy Solutions program. For each home energy audit, a contribution was made to Durham's fuel bank. Representatives from CE&STF were asked to attend an upcoming event where the Selectman from Durham will officially receive the check. Tom will provide the details to the group once they are finalized.

6. Electric Car Charging Station

Tom is looking for a new donation Level II electric car charging station after losing the first one due to delays. If and when Tom secures another donation, he will restart the process of finding a suitable location for it in Durham. Marilyn suggested sending a letter to all local businesses asking them to identify their interest. Since David Turley has been appointed the new Chair of the Library Board of Trustees, Tom added that he will revisit the library site.

7. Bike-Ped Plan

Tom mentioned that there was positive response to the Bike-Ped idea at the recent Joint Commissions meeting. Hannah Bober agreed to Chair a subcommittee and reach out to bike-ped enthusiasts in the community. The first step is to write a small town plan to qualify for DOT funding like the one completed in Middletown. The initial goal is to pick a small, manageable project that can be completed in a reasonable timeframe. Tom suggested that Hannah mention this project at “Visioning the Future” sponsored by Coginchaug Area Transition at Middlefield Federated Church on April 26.

8. Miscellaneous Business

Public Comment-

A question was posed by Pauline Webb about the details of the full engineering study for the virtual net metering project at the corner of Haddam Quarter Road and Brick Lane.

Ron mentioned that he contacted Matt Lesser and Ted Kennedy, Jr. about bringing natural gas lines to Durham with the incoming water lines. This would make Durham eligible for emergency and micro-grid projects.

Jen asked about using Middlefield’s Community Innovations Grant to sponsor an event.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Minutes recorded by Susan Michael & Thomas Kannam