

**MINUTES OF THE  
CENTER HARBOR ENERGY COMMITTEE**

**September 18, 2008**

The meeting convened at 7:05pm.

Attending were:

- Existing members: Steve Caney and Chris Williams, Co-Chairmen; Chris Johnson; and JoAnn Wood, Secretary
- Representing the SB: Charley Hanson, sitting in for Randy Mattson
- Representing Meredith: Bill Bayard
- And most emphatically not least: Brad Allen, one of two new members (Bernie Volz will also be joining the committee).

**I. The minutes of the August meeting were read and approved without correction.**

**II. The light bulb project.** Brad makes the very good point that the committee should always be thinking in terms of educating the public not only on ways to save energy, but also on the pros and cons of available options. For example

- The complete life cycle of the products (and actions) we encourage people to use and take – e.g., the ‘end of life’ issues. In a small way, we’re starting to see some manufacturers ‘owning’ their products, thus assuming responsibility for end-of-life disposal or recycling
- The benefits of spending more for more efficient options – e.g., exterior wood stoves – versus the higher front-end costs.

The committee agrees to acquire bulbs through NH Co-op’s bulb program and offer one free exchange of florescent for incandescent per person. Cakes on the Lake and Chris Williams, Architects, have each pledged \$250.00 toward the purchase of these bulbs. Brad volunteered to wheedle as many bulbs out of the company as possible. In addition:

- We will promote the Co-op’s free recycling bins but Bill Bayard will, between now and November 4, see if the Meredith recycling facility will agree to accommodate a logoed recycling bin
- We will present flyers and graphs presenting realistic pros and cons of switching to florescent bulbs, including relative costs near- and long-term; safety issues surrounding whole and broken bulbs; and information (e.g., from the DES website) on how to handle broken bulbs. Steve and Chris J. will write up flyers and design eye-catching charts
- We will also hand out various Co-op brochures, some of which serve as an introductory primer on other steps individuals can take to conserve energy

- Various committee members have volunteered to man the table (schedule to be determined)

**II. Energy audits.** The Chrises Johnson and Williams reported back on their investigations into obtaining energy audits for town buildings.

Chris Johnson:

- Has arranged for Bill Smith of NH Coop to do a baseline energy audit of town hall on September 24. The audit will focus primarily on electricity and fuel usage and compare this information to similar buildings in the state. The Coop offers incentives (e.g., the Smart Start Program) and some financing options if the building meets certain criteria. (We will need to provide the building's energy history.)
- If the building comes in high, the Coop offers a \$40k audit that would be all inclusive and would recommend the best scenario for improving efficiency.

Chris Williams:

- Ascertained from Laconia Tech that their trainee auditors would be very much interested in practicing their craft on us. However, Chris thinks these students probably wouldn't be capable of doing a detailed analysis
- Discovered that the Jordan Institute is currently trying to institute audits in every school in the State. Its next project will be to hit all municipal buildings. Audits would be done in two stages
  - A free preliminary audit to assess the building's needs
  - Energy modeling, etc. leading to concrete recommendations for improvement. This latter study would not be free.

The committee agreed to invite Kirk Stone of Jordan to meet with us next month. We further agreed that Chrises W. and J. work together to determine how we can use the Coop and Jordan to best advantage.

**III. PSA Campaign and Website.** Steve suggested that the first PSA advertise the light bulb project. Distribution would include:

- Various area newspapers
- Chris W's master e-mail list
- The town newsletter

Regarding future PSA's, Steve handed out a revised worksheet (and will e-mail copies to everyone) and requested five possible stories for discussion at our next meeting.

**IV. Potential new projects.** A significant part of the committee's general mission is the on-going search for new ways to interact with the public. In line with that, Steve briefly

discussed his 'greening of kids' bedrooms' program', which is designed to create energy and conservation awareness in kids.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 9:15. The next scheduled meeting is set for Thursday, October 16 at 7pm.

Respectfully submitted,

JoAnn Wood  
Secretary