

Renewable Energy Task Force (RETF)

6/27/07

The following are minutes of the RETF meeting held on 6/27/07.

The meeting was called to order at approximately 10AM by Roger Wojcik with the following members present: R. Crosbie, R. Wojcik, J. Hoagland, T. Jordan, D. Kavanagh, J. Nolet, and R. Kmetz as guest but soon to be appointed.

The group agreed that R. Wojcik would serve as Chairman and D. Kavanagh would be Vice Chairman and J. Nolet as secretary.

A brief introduction of the group task was presented based on the Renewable Energy Task Force memo from Robin Crosbie, Town Manager, dated May 8, 2007. The Chair also introduced all members on RETF and welcomed R. Kmetz to the group.

The Town Manager brought up the feasibility study of DPW. The focus of this new project was initiated by a Town appropriation of \$50k at Town Meeting. The study is geared at "siting," costing, conceptual DPW design with emphasis on "green" utilization. The expectation is that the report will be available by end of December 07 for possible presentation at the 2008 Town Meeting.

Additionally, the TM indicated that the preference should be to focus our attention on a quick project with positive results so as to highlight potential savings and generate "green" awareness.

A lengthy discussion ensued dealing with "wind power" possibilities vs. "solar". It became evident due to several reasons, including: current costs, topography and wind velocity in the Pioneer Valley that our initial focus should be on "solar" generation. Glenbrook Middle School and the Longmeadow High School were designated as potential targets. R.Kmetz provided several reference documents dealing with Wind and Solar energy.

The heating of the High School swimming pool was selected as the most promising "quick hit" project. The cost of heating the pool using oil and/or natural gas is estimated at \$100K by Adrian Phaneuf. The group agreed that its initial project would be to evaluate solar energy to heat the High School pool. The prime emphasis will to review the following:

- Technology
- PE Sources
- Costs
- Vendors
- Economics

The following members agreed to serve on this project: T.Jordan, J. Hoagland, R.Kmetz and D. Kavanagh. It is expected that a report, to the full task force, will be presented sometime by early fall.

A secondary, more limited, project was discussed dealing with Glenbrook Middle School. This would involve smaller solar panels to generate electricity. The goal is to demonstrate the practicality and economics of such a system. Contact with STCC will be made to shorten the experience curve and understand the potential grant opportunities. R. Wocik, P. Santiniello and J. Nolet will serve on this group and will report back to the task force with project scope and request for proposals, if appropriate, by end of summer.

Adrian Phaneuf described the High School pool, roofing structural concerns and provided other pertinent operational pool details. He will be available for further informational needs as required and offered his cell telephone number (262-3351). R. Wojcik agreed to be the contact dealing with the High School “green group”.

The next meeting was scheduled for 10AM on 7/27/07 at the same location.

The meeting adjourned at 11:40 AM.

G. A. Nolet
RETF Secretary