

**Sudbury, MA, Energy and Sustainability Green Ribbon Committee  
Meeting Minutes July 9, 2009**

**OPENING:**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Energy and Sustainability Green Ribbon Committee began at 7:30 P.M. on July 9, 2009 at the Town of Sudbury DPW Building Conference Room. The meeting was conducted by James Kelly.

**ATTENDANCE:**

Committee Members	Attending
Rami Alwan	X
Jeffrey S. Beeler	X
William G. Braun	
Robert C. Haarde	
Dean Holden	X
Edward Lewis	X
Robert Morrison	X
Mark Sevier	X
Building Inspector, Town of Sudbury	
James Kelly	X
Guests	
Michael E. Melnick, Co-Chairman, Sudbury Permanent Building Committee	X

**Meeting Minutes:**

- There were no minutes from the June 18th meeting, which was the Committee’s initial meeting.

**Introduction:**

- Jim Kelly introduced the Committee to Mike Melnick, the current co-chairman of the Permanent Building Committee. Mike is considering joining energy committee. Mike has been interested in energy issues for many years and was instrumental in completing Sudbury’s first renewable energy project: the solar thermal system installed at the police station in 1980.
- Jim Kelly observed that the Committee’s intent will be to get projects approved and constructed. It was noted that a good working relationship with the Permanent Building Committee will be important to achieve this goal.
- Jim Kelly mentioned that the Committee has been added to the town's website.

**Committee Officers:**

- Prior to the meeting, Bill Braun had indicated to Jim Kelly that he would be pleased to serve as the Committee’s Chairman, if the committee approved. Jeff Beeler observed that Braun’s experience with town committees and engineering background would be strong assets for the committee chairmanship. Others agreed, and, after a motion, Bill Braun was

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elected chairman by unanimous vote. Bill will confirm his willingness to serve as chairman and accept the position at the next meeting.

- Bob Morrison volunteered record meeting minutes, but requested that others volunteered to do so for future meetings as needed. Edward Lewis expressed willingness to assist with this duty.

**Next Meeting:**

- The next meeting is scheduled for August 13, 2009, 7:30 P.M., at the DPW conference room.

**Agenda Items:**

- A deadline exists for Sudbury to claim or utilize funds associated with the *Clean Energy Choice Program*. These funds are held by the MTC and the deadline is expected to be November 30 of this year. Details associated with receipt and use of the funds need to be clarified. Dean Holden will further investigate these details and recommend actions at the next meeting.
- The committee will complete a grant application for the Town to submit for an ARRA Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) to the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (DOER) Green Communities Division. The requirements for application are yet to be announced by the DOER, but are expected soon. Mark Sevier and Bob Morrison have been working in conjunction with Jim Kelly to develop the content of the grant, which will include solar thermal and photovoltaic systems and direct digital heating and air conditioning system controls for the Fairbank Community Center on 40 Fairbank Road. The submission content will include schematic design of the systems, their expected energy cost savings and their construction cost estimates. A structural review is needed for Mark's panel layout for the FCC Gym roof. Jim will coordinate with Mark to accomplish this review. Mark and Bob will update the committee on its progress at the next meeting.
- Energy audits for many of the town buildings were undertaken during June as coordinated through the DOER's Energy Audit Program. The audits were submitted to Jim Kelly during the first week of this month and forwarded to the committee. The committee members will review these audits in advance of the next meeting.
- Jim Kelly reported that NStar Electric had responded to his request to evaluate energy efficient street lighting replacements. NStar indicated its willingness to pay 50% of the replacement cost and expressed its interest in completing the work. The committee discussed funding approaches for this project. More details are needed to evaluate the benefit and return on investment for this project.
- Rami Alwan reported details associated with the Lincoln Sudbury High School heating and cooling plant. Why wasn't the geothermal aspect (ground-coupling) of the system, implemented, and would it be worthwhile to do so now?. The design engineer (SAR Engineering) had recommended the geothermal throughout the design phase of the project and did not know why it was not constructed. The high school utilities were

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discussed; it was observed that its energy consumption had decreased in the past three years and that the building is operating very efficiently relative to similar buildings. It was noted that the water-source heat pump system has inherent heat recovery and is energy efficient, regardless of the heat source or means of heat rejection. Rami will continue this investigation.

- Jim Kelly remarked that the one of the committee's missions will be to recommend capital spending priorities for the town in advance of next year's town meeting. The energy audits that were recently submitted will serve as an excellent starting point for developing and prioritizing projects.
- Jim Kelly raised the issue of the stretch energy code: what's the appropriate process for the committee to evaluate the code and offer its opinion to the Selectmen regarding its adoption? Should stakeholders be invited to discuss the implications of its adoption? More discussion of this issue will occur at the next meeting.
- Jeff Beeler will research the availability of grants or alternate funding sources for energy generation or conservation.
- Dean Holden recommended the committee consider initiatives to raise awareness of sustainability issues in Sudbury's residential sector. Dean believes the committee should take a leadership role though education among other initiatives in increasing energy efficiency and sustainability. An example would be the committee is sponsoring of speakers on sustainability topics. It was noted that he committee's website can be used to distribute information for this purpose and that taping meetings or special events for presentation on Sudbury TV8 would be worthwhile.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

- The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:30 P.M.

*Minutes submitted by: Bob Morrison*