

Town of East Hampton
Clean Energy Task Force
Regular Meeting
January 8, 2019
East Hampton Public Library History Room

MINUTES

Present: Chairman Pat Petrone, Vice Chairman Kurt Reichenbach, Brian Gay, Martin Podskoch, Glen LeConche, Carrie Santore (observer)

Absent: Cynthia Singer

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:11 P.M. by Chairman Petrone.

Public Remarks: Ms. Santore learned about the Task Force on the new town website and wanted to observe a meeting given her interest in the group and the issues it addresses. Ms. Santore shared that she uses solar and geothermal energy for her own home. She is also a member of the environmental advocacy group 350CT and would be open to collaborating with the Task Force on projects that may be of interest to both groups.

Communications: None

Town Staff Report: Mr. LeConche shared information about the new town website and its potential use for the Task Force. Provided each member with sample business card which displayed a QR code which links directly to the CETF webpage on the town site – Task Force members agreed this could be very useful. Mr. LeConche recommended members contact Cathy Sirois to sign up for training on the new website.

Old Business: Mr. Gay motioned to accept the October minutes. Mr. Podskoch seconded the motion. The motion passed without opposition. The group reviewed the business from the last meeting. The group reviewed the electric car show location plan for 2019 – the plan is to relocate the event to Route 66 for greater visibility.

New Business: Chairman Petrone sought input on various activities the Task Force could focus on for 2019.

Mr. Podskoch mentioned a possible solar drive.

Mr. Podskoch also asked about the energy audits for the municipal buildings that had been conducted in part during previous years as part of the Task Force's work. Per Chairman Petrone, the results of those audits would likely be out of date at this point (need to be within three years) so a current audit could be valuable. The municipal buildings in East Hampton are currently undergoing reorganization/consolidation with the new town hall complex, so the project could be more manageable now than it was

previously. A list of the buildings to be retained would be needed so that we have a full list of municipal properties in need of auditing. A decision would need to be made as to what level audit the town wants conducted – a higher level audit would provide more information but would also be more expensive than a less expensive (and less thorough) audit. Per Chairman Petrone, some companies may do a sample audit for free. If a higher level audit were conducted, the companies performing the audits may expect to then perform any recommended remediation, in which case an RFP process to select a vendor may be warranted. The audit would provide energy usage and expenditure information which would be beneficial to the Task Force, town officials and the public vis-à-vis cost savings and energy efficiency. Chairman Petrone will follow up with John Greeno and Mr. Leconche will follow up with Jeff Jylka for more information. Chairman Petrone will also draft a proposal to present to the Town Manager and Town Committee.

Mr. Gay stated that he would like to help organize a presentation at the library on a topic of relevance to the Task Force. Possible presenters include the climate scientist Professor Gary Yohe from Wesleyan University who gave a presentation on his research in Portland last year. Mr. Gay will reach out to the Portland Clean Energy Task Force to see how they were able to secure him as a speaker.

Mr. Gay also mentioned possible collaboration with the Airline Trail Task Force which is in formation, once it has been formed. The two groups could collaborate on an event which highlights the role walking, running, bicycling and horseback riding play in helping to reduce emissions when people choose these modes of locomotion over driving, thereby conserving energy resources while also improving health.

Mr. LeConche discussed the new town hall facility and possible opportunities for the Task Force to post their information there for people who are interested in learning more about the Task Force or clean energy in general. Possible topics of interest could include resources on energy efficient construction, how to transition to renewable energy, etc. Posters could include the new QR codes which could then link people to our page on the town website or our Facebook page.

The Task Force reviewed the meeting dates for 2019. Chairman Petrone has a scheduling conflict on March 5th. The group agreed to request an alternate date for the July meeting given that the first Tuesday is so close to the July 4th holiday and some members will be on vacation.

Public Remarks: Ms. Santore mentioned the potential for collaboration between 350CT and the Task Force on a presentation event, depending on the details. She provided Mr. Gay with her contact information for potential collaboration.

Adjournment: *The meeting adjourned at 6:54 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,
Brian Gay
Recording Clerk