

Williamsburg Energy Committee Meeting - Minutes recorded by T. Whitaker

Date & Time: Tuesday, August 19, 2008 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm

Location: Elders Lunch Room (Rm. 101) Town Offices, Haydenville, MA

Committee Members present: Chief John Cotton, Andrew Webster, Gary Kuntz and Tomasin Whitaker

Absent: Kim Boas, *Andrew Lawrence*

Prior meetings minutes will be written up and mailed by Gary Kuntz (GK) to committee to be approved and made available to the public

Review of MetalHenge on August 9th

John Cotton (JC) reported that the public was very interested in the Energy Committee table and that he gave out all 200 copies of energy-related handouts and materials on energy efficiency, fuel assistance and other items related to the upcoming heating season

JC noted that people seemed concerned about fuel prices this winter and glad to have helpful information

Planning for October 18 Energy Fair

JC shared that the Mass. Dep't. of Health had identified as their #1 issue this winter that people would run out of fuel and potentially freeze to death

Andrew Webster (AW) noted that the fuel assistance fact sheet he obtained from Franklin County listed banks that were offering loans for fuel. AW will check with Bank of Western Massachusetts, JC will check with Florence Savings Bank

The committee was concerned that residents would be spending their savings on fuel this winter.

Outreach to the Community:

1) Meekins Library to host an energy savings/heating season display and table with resources and materials, presentations and community events (AW)

(TW to provide AW with the list of items that comprise the "energy kit" that the Town of Warwick purchased for folks to access through the library. i.e. Kill-A-Watt meter, books on weatherization, air sealing equipment, etc.)

2) Energy Fair - to be held on 10/18 from 9 am - 12 noon in the Dunphy School gym
Vision: A community-building, informative event that will bring energy and heating experts and local service providers in the area to table and be a resource by giving a short presentation on their area of expertise (participants will be local as possible)
Goal: To provide the residents of Williamsburg with information, resources and the expertise to save electricity, money and fuel and stay warm and safe this winter
Potential participants (with Energy Committee member in charge of contacting):

- Fire Dep't. - for a presentation on safe burning of materials (JC)
- Police Dep't. - to demonstrate gas-savings of indoor light on cruiser and high efficiency furnace (JC)
- Kokosa - to present on oil burner maintenance (GK)
- Cernak - to present on oil burner maintenance (JC)
- chimney sweeps - to present on chimney maintenance and safety (TW)
- Cozy Homes/Mark Lantz, private energy auditor - to present his energy efficient home services and long-term planning for homes (AW)
- George Propane - heating and hot water efficiency tips, any budget plans they offer (GK)

- National Grid - free compact fluorescent light bulbs (Kim Boas - KB)
- Center for Ecological Technology - to present MassSAVE, the statewide free home energy assessment service and its incentives, plus Dep't of Energy "Energy Savers guidebooks" and handouts(TW)
- Williamsburg Pharmacy & Hardware - weatherization materials and laundry racks, lines and pins (AW)
- Adam's Stove - wood pellets and high efficiency stoves (GK)
- Bill Turner, wood *furnaces* (JC)
- Solar installers (GK) (TW to send GK CET solar installers list)
- PVTA (TW)
- Meekins - (JC)
- Natural Siding - Pam Howland and window insulation kits (AW)

Local food/refreshments:

- General Store (KB), Bread Euphoria (AW), Old School Bakery (GK), Blue House Café (JC), Quonquont Orchard for cider? (TW)

Other displays:

- Green jobs bulletin board (AW)
- Kids activities: Dr. Worm (David Loveler - TW)
- Other?

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Time of next meeting: Tuesday, Sept. 9, 2008: 7:00 pm, Town Offices, R. 101

Committee to advise Brenda Lessard, Town Clerk, to post next meeting date (GK).