

Meeting Minutes

December 18, 2007 WCEI Task Force

7:30 PM Town Hall

Members in attendance: Jon G.; Dawn K.; Sharon deK.; Jim S.; Andy D.; Sheri C.; Jason M.; Alex B.; Yuqi Z.

- The minutes from November 20th Meeting were accepted with the following correction: “Community Energy” is the correct name, not “Communications Energy”
- The Task Force welcomed new members:
Sheri Cifaldi, and her husband, Jason Morrill. (Great to have you aboard!)

Task Force members were also encouraged to identify and invite other Town residents to participate and possibly join the WCEI Task Force.

- Updates

100+ Sign Ups

We now have ~115 sign ups. There is an approximate two month delay before the actual sign ups get posted on our web site: See:

<http://www.ctinnovations.com/communities/Woodbridge.php> Once we have the official posting of 100+ sign ups for Woodbridge, we will hold a press conference and begin to get the process underway to implement the 2 kW photovoltaic award.

Other Marketing efforts were discussed, including:

- Jon’s “How to save \$1,000 on your energy bills” as a counter argument for Town residents’ unwillingness to sign up for CT Clean Energy Options because of the increased expense.
- Town Leaders – WCEI TF members (signed up?). The Task Force will not ask “Town Leaders” to join again
- Inter-Town Rivalry – Woodbridge v. Orange (Mike Krasner). Orange is not sufficiently far enough along “to compete” with WCEI at this time.
- PSAs – Pua has put up three Woodbridge Public Service Announcements (PSAs) on the access TV channel
- We all agree that implementing a personal sell (getting three sign ups each) is a great thing to do. Having kids tell their parents is good, as well. Sheri mentioned her energy education work at “Stepping Stones” museum. Sheri will send Jon links to energy conservation programs. She spoke about an interesting “make electricity” hand crank exhibit that we might want to create.
- Jason explained how the WattsUp meter works. He tested in on a Town tape recorder in the room that was on “Stand By”. That appliance uses ~\$14 per year just sitting there on “stand by”. A variety of energy conservation products are available at:
<http://www.smarthome.com/ /index.aspx>

Other marketing efforts

Community Pot Luck Dinners:

Jon brought up the idea of community green parties. These are pot luck dinners held in different peoples' homes to discuss how folks are saving energy and combating global climate change. It is modeled after a program run successfully in San Francisco. See: <http://www.acterra.org/greenteams/index.html> Task Force members thought this was worth a try; great way to help create "community" in Woodbridge.

Speakers Series Underway

Jon Gorham reported that the Speakers Series is underway, He will be presenting on Thursday night, 7 PM. All Task Force members are encouraged to come. The presentation will be taped by Pua and made available for viewing. The Task Force said it would offer to pay Pua for the taping of the sessions. Jon G will offer her payment. Jon G asked for help in marketing the Speakers Series, hosting the events, and helping to finalize the topics and content. Andy will present in February on the topic of photovoltaics.

Jim S. will make two more sandwich boards. We will set one up on Rimmon Road/Beecher Rd. Suggestion: Make the date bigger on the announcements.

Recycling at the Schools (Dawn and Sharon update)

Dawn and Sharon have held several meetings with school officials. They will report back next month on progress made to institute a recycling program at Beech Road School.

CFL recycling on web site & around town

Dawn will speak with the recycling expert at Town Hall. Jon G. reported that the IKEA sustainability person (who is going to be a presenter in the Speaker Series) can be contacted re: IKEA's CFL recycling program.

Dawn will be asking how best to set up a CFL recycling box at the Woodbridge Transfer Station.

The video/essay/poster contest & iPod purchase

The Task Force will try to jump start the contest the first of the New Year with wide-spread publicity. Jim S. has purchased a second iPod nano. The project has purchased two others. There will be nine prizes in total. We agreed to open the contest up to high school students in each of the three towns. The following people will take these actions:

Alex, Yuqi: talk to the ARHS principal to get permission to announce the contest to all students in three towns.

Jon: Arrange meeting with Jonathan Furst (media instructor at ARHS) with Alex and Yuqi.

Jon: Contact Mike Okrent in Bethany and Mike Krasner in Orange to get their feedback on announcing the contest.

- **Administrative Support**
Jon asked that all Task Force members submit receipts and invoices for expenses incurred.
The group discussed the need to get administrative help (a volunteer or paid person x hours per week) going forward.
- **Conservation Bond Referendum for Beecher Road School**
Jon Gorham has been asked by several Board of Education members to participate on the Beecher Road School Building Committee. Jon G will ask Dr. Guy Stella (Superintendent) and Sheila McKreven (Chair, BoEd) how that should be done procedurally.

Next Meeting date: Tuesday, January 15, 2008 @ 7:30 PM - Town Hall

Adjourn: 9:15 PM

Materials Forthcoming from Task Force Members:

Jon G: to send PDF of his Energy Conservation presentation 12/20/2007

Jon G: to send the PDF of his blower door energy audit

Alex B: to send around invitation to all Task Force members to sign up for the Amity Reg. High School on-line paper, "The Trident"

Jon G: to send around the links to Pua's video taped sessions

Sheri: to circulate information on kids' energy curricula

Dawn and Sharon: to report back on recycling efforts at BRS

Jon G: to send Karen at Town Hall all PDF minutes 2007 for posting on the web site.