



Town of Greenwich

Conservation Commission

Town Hall – 101 Field Point Road - Greenwich, CT 06830

Phone 203-622-6461 Fax 203-622-3795

conservation@greenwichct.org

Conservation Commission Energy Committee Meeting

Thursday, March 28, 2019

Land Use Conference Room, 2nd Floor, Town Hall

In attendance: Urling Searle, Rusty Parker, Steve Hall, Bob Brady

Also in attendance: Patricia Sesto, director, Sarah Coccaro, conservation resource manager

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:01 a.m. by Patricia Sesto

2. Approval of Minutes

March 14, 2019 meeting minutes approved by consensus.

3. Winter Program

The Committee discussed post-Winter Program action items still remaining. Sesto inquired as to whom sponsorship money is still needed from. Coccaro reported Eversource was the only sponsor still missing payment based off conversations with Patrice Gillespie, whose group, the Clean Water Fund, is accepting the donations. Eversource was sent an invoice for their donation and CWF is waiting for their payment. Gillespie will report to Coccaro as soon as they receive Eversource's payment. Sesto asked Coccaro to make a tally of all the costs and receipts paid, receipts to be paid, and how much of the sponsorship money is left over.

Further, Sesto stated that as of March 12, thank you notes have been sent to the following speakers: Malkin, Becker, and Granoff. Sesto will complete the remaining thank you notes to Andy and Ron from Eversource.

Other action items still remaining include reimbursement for the Aux Delices refreshments paid by Urling Searle. Coccaro asked Searle to provide an itemized receipt to Gillespie. The CWF will reimburse Searle once they've received that receipt.

The Committee asked Coccaro to double check that the recorded video of the energy program is on the Energy Committee website. Bob Brady expressed concern that the video was difficult to find on the Town website and asked if Coccaro could see what key words were tied with the search of the video.

The Committee then discussed next steps to be taken to keep the conversation going with commercial building owners who attended the event. Anthony Clark from CT Green Bank had offered to do a follow up seminar/luncheon with event attendees. Steve Hall recommended having a presentation with the release of the energy report and inviting Anthony Clark to this presentation. The Committee discussed general ideas for the purpose and goals of the presentation and who would be invited.

The discussion moved to future plans for energy conservation and the Committee in Town. Sesto told the Committee that she has put recommendations into the 2019 draft POCD for an energy commission. She also met with Peter Tesei and discussed a future energy commission, of which he is supportive. Tesei is going to get back to the Committee on his recommendations to move forward. Brady conveyed that based off previous experience in ordinance-writing, he is drafting an ordinance to create a town energy committee. Brady will send his draft to Sesto.

4. Town Hall Energy Audit and report

The Committee proposed the end of May for the Energy Committee's report.

Hall recommends bringing in Anthony Clark to talk about what other towns are doing and where they might go. Coccaro offered to look at the Sustainable CT website for other examples of town energy plans. Sesto is going to check with Gillespie to see if she has any recommendations on other town energy plans.

The Committee expressed general dissatisfaction with the SWA report; specifically, is missing components and overall didn't address lowering the energy load. The Committee discussed thoughts to be included into the report, such as Glenville school, solar (roofs), lighting in Town Hall and all municipal buildings, geothermal...etc. and reasons for why some things didn't work. Rusty Parker offered to check with Ed Stillman on his observations for the failed Glenville solar panel and report back to the Committee. Parker inquired how are the Islands powered.

Parker asked about the Eastern Greenwich Civic Center renovation plans and if there was any incorporation of energy saving? Sesto said the topic is in the proposal and explained the process for RFP and RFQ. Once the top proposals are selected the companies will be given parameters to come up with a plan, which will include energy retrofits. It sounds like regardless of how much “energy savings” are included in the plan, the upgrades will without a doubt save more energy just from the nature of the age and condition of the facility. Sesto asked the Committee to come up with a sentence or two to include in the parameters to qualified individuals. Hall offered to write and send in to Sesto within a few days.

Hall asked if Schneider-Electric is looking at the micro grid in this area.

5. Next meeting

The next meeting will be Thursday, April 11, 2019. The Committee agreed to reread through latest version of the SWA Town Hall energy audit report and come with comments to include in the final town energy report. Coccoaro will send out the most recent version. Parker asked to invite Mitch Mailman to speak with the Committee.

6. Adjourn

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:54 a.m.