

Westwood Environmental Advisory Committee

Wednesday Jan 18, 2012
Approved Minutes



Attending: Chris Balfe, Christine Blaney, Gregory Mountain
(*Sec'ty*), Michael Ruane (*Chair*), Connor Odell,
Michael Pessolano, Yash Risbud, John Sciara
Regrets: Kevin Brennan
Guests: Fred Callis, Dan ...? (*ENElectros*)

Ruane called mtg to order at 7:40pm
Minutes of previous mtg corrected, approved + seconded

Solar

Fred Callis + Dan ...? contacted Ruane + were invited to describe services to EnCom they represent ENElectros (<http://www.enelectros.com>) based in Atlantic Highlands, NJ can provide energy use assessment (gas or electric) + advise/implement cost-saving plan services include energy audit, agency guidance, technology recommendation, installation can act as brokers between low-cost e-power suppliers + client often they organize towns as consortium to purchase collective e-power at reduced rate for WW would begin with examining current usage + e-bills Sciara noted that due to recent energy upgrades, current e-bills may be inaccurate discussion focussed on 2 options of PV installation as way to supplement town e-use Town would finance entire effort, and retain all entitled rebates, or no up front costs for Town, but ENElectros would get the rebates ENElectros encouraged to prepare brief report if supplied with town e-bills

Rain Barrels (Odell)

Ms. Sauter (Env. Science teacher at WWHS) is interested in using/displaying rain barrel Blaney volunteered Rick Woods could deliver barrel to HS; will check with Woods to be sure Mountain noted students' success engaging teachers in poss EnCom interaction; keep up good work Blaney contact at Rutgers Water Resources willing to demo barrel use but needs > 1 group of users to make trip from New Brunswick worth it Blaney urges we think of other potential users to nucleate a group demo audience

Turbine Project (Risbud)

Risbud notes that if regulations prohibit placement near stream center turbine plan is finished since flood in last 6 mos, USGS has removed its power/metering shed from bank of stream new concrete-reinforced embankment has been installed

Community Garden (Ruane)

decision on Open Space Trust Fund grant proposal has not been received fine article by Kevin Brennan in WW Newsletter about new Ambulance Corps garden

Green Team (Blaney)

education/outreach ideas to engage EnCom more visibly/effectively + earn Sustainability pts
Ruane
annual Town recycling calendar printed/distributed on refrigerator magnets

post Town sustainability issues on Facebook

Pessolano

promote bicycle and pedestrian safety awareness

Balfe added that installation of bike racks in town (near CVS?) could be part of this
develop green-awareness in schools at various levels

K-6: poster contest

middle school: essay contest

HS: community action

initiate/manage a residential utility useage reduction contest

reward for verifiable reduction in energy use over a given time pd (6 mos?)

possible name: "Westwood's Biggest Loser"

many committee members liked concept; Pessalano to develop for next mtg

Rutgers Water Resources may examine need for stabilizing stream on 3rd Ave across from A-field

New Business

Ruane and Mountain re-elected to Chair and Secretary for 2012

Next mtg: Feb 22

Mtg. adjourned at 9:30pm