

Marshfield Energy and Climate Change Committee
Plainfield Energy Group
Notes of April 2, 2012 Meeting

Attending: Bob Atchinson, Ed Hutchinson, Dan Chodorkoff, Nick Seifert, Michael Socks, Lawrence Black, Anne Miller, Faeterri Silver, Rich Phillips, Joel Trupin

Convene: 7:05 PM

Adjourn: 8:25 PM

Business:

- 1) Guest Faeterri Silver was introduced and she explained her interest. She is willing to be appointed so Rich will forward her name to the Selectboard.
- 2) Notes from the following meetings were approved. 2011 2/14, 3/14, 5/2, 6/6, 8/8, 9/12/ 10/12, 11/7, 12/4 2012 1/11/ 2/6, 3/5. These minutes have previously been reviewed, modified as appropriate and posted on the town's energy website.
- 3) Nick and Joel reported on their review of the current PACE legislation and guidance. They volunteered for this review at the last meeting. Joel and Nick decided to extend the review after Michael and Bob provided their understanding of how aspects of the new program work. Apparently, the loan funds are derived in some other manner than by town borrowing and most of the administration of the programs is done at the state level. Joel and Nick will broaden their review and provide a report at a later time. The apparent changes make it more likely we would want to further consider the program for recommendation to the Selectboard.
- 4) Bob reported on the passage of the PACE resolution at town meeting in Plainfield. He is working on the next steps to implement the program and may use that financing to fund his proposed new solar PV array.
- 5) Bob reported on the commuter bus film he and Tawnya Kristen completed recently. They got some good shots talking with riders on the bus. Bob also reported on the North Montpelier Solar Farm. This installation includes about 220 panels for around 47 Kw. Robbie Porter owns this project and people are welcome to climb around the fence and visit the site.
- 6) Rich reported that the Twinfield students performed three energy home visits and we will not do more. We may do additional visits next fall. Working with Charlie, other teachers and the student Green Team we developed and passed to the School Board for adoption a set of Conservation Guidelines establishing expectations of what minimum actions students, staff and teachers will take to reduce energy use. We have also developed and passed to the Facilities Committee a proposed energy-related capital improvements list.
- 7) We briefly reviewed the Town Meeting Day survey results. This will be taken up again at the next meeting since Rich left the file at home. In light of the results, we will push on with the solar at OSC and recommend to the school board to also move forward on solar. Charlie Wanzer wants to have a physics class be involved with the design of the Twinfield solar system in the fall. Anne, Ed and John are the volunteers to pursue solar at OSC. We need to get numbers down to the payback to sell this project. We will also move on with the neighborhood groups idea through which the group or community solar may come about. Dan, Faetarri and Rich volunteered for this project.
- 8) Anne was talking with Paul Bishop about solar hot water. He is putting together a design and cost for Anne and is willing to provide some standard designs and costs for a range of systems as assistance to the Committee. We agree that would be useful, but we would need to rethink how we go about getting more homeowners to install the systems.
- 9) Waterbury's LEAP energy fair is 4/14/12 and is the biggest and best in the area.