

Balancing Economic Development & Environmental Stewardship Meeting Notes April 12, 2010



Team Goal: Community members steward both a vibrant economy and our human and natural resources so that all generations thrive.

Next meetings: May 10 at 8:00 am (Tri-County CAP Resource Center). June 16 (evening) Carroll County United Annual Meeting with all teams.

Attendance: Noreen Downs, Raymond O'Brien, Chuck Henderson, Leona Simon, Brian Walker, Dorothy Solomon, Wendy Scribner, Bob Gillette, Mike Benoit and Cyndi Paulin.

- The meeting primarily focused on details for the Wood Biomass Bus Tour.
- The team also began discussion about the June Annual Community Meeting – the progress they want to share and the next steps they would like to invite the community to help with.

Energy

Wood Biomass Tour

- April 22nd, 8:30-2:00 pm to Winnisquam HS and the US Forest Service in Campton with Sarah Smith from UNH Cooperative extension serving as the “tour guide” for Q & A on the bus. \$5/person to help defray costs.
- Details:
 1. **Invitations** – Went out by email to superintendents, school boards, energy committees, town administrators (asked to share with others) & energy committees. We also had emails for the Gov. Wentworth, Wakefield and town of Conway facilities managers. (Generally most selectman & energy committee members emails are not available on-line.) Team members have so far made direct contact with towns of Wolfeboro, Tuftonboro, Moultonborough, Sandwich & the following schools - Governor Wentworth, Wakefield School District, SAU 9 superintendent, Moultonborough Business Manager, Brewster Academy. Team members will reach out to specific contacts they know. Hospitals & libraries were also suggested. Dorothy will contact Scott McKinnon @ Memorial.
 2. **Transportation** – Purity Springs 24 passenger van a possibility and our first choice – Noreen working on. [Note: secured, working on cost.]
 3. **Handout/Resource page to refer people to**- Links to information that has come up in the meetings are all on our website. Handouts/packet – include links from our webpage as well as possible funding sources.
 4. **Email reminder** – email to go to registrants. Confirm time, travel & lunch and ask people to watch How a Boiler works video (include link).
 5. **Energy Savings** – This information has been a bit harder to find. Chuck thinks he has a handout or resource. Winnisquam is pulling that information together and will include it as part of the tour. Merrimack HS is saving half. Tuftonboro (pellet) is saving about 2/3 but they also went to zoned heating. Include in handouts.

Related conversation

Tuftonboro report – Wendy visited the Tuftonboro town hall to see their pellet system. They purchased the system from Bethel, ME and get pellets locally. The pellets are staged in the cellar in a space that is

a bit larger than a 500 gal oil tank. \$29,000 installation; they did get some economic stimulus money. Payback is looking to be shorter than originally anticipated.

Energy priorities - The idea was raised that the team might want to look at priorities for energy savings. In many cases, addressing efficiency of buildings can be a first priority and also return a great deal of savings to schools & towns. Towns/schools looking at alternative heating sources might want to make efficiency a co-priority.

Grafton County Ex: Grafton did an energy audit then began addressing the identified issues. They have reduced their usage by 30%.

Local pellet sources - Received outreach email from Peter Donohoe, Jesse E. Lyman, Inc Pellet Company in North Conway. There is also a pellet company starting in Union.

Conference Briefing - Local Energy Solutions 2011 - (Bob, Chuck, Noreen, and Ray attended along with Ed Maduskie) Lots to take in! Some great resources –

- Field Guide for Municipalities – Noreen will make a copy.
- Plymouth Area Renewable Energy Initiative ([PAREI](#)) – great example of volunteers working together to help townspeople do energy savings projects (owners pay for materials) from energy audits to installing solar. Volunteers have helped over 100 homeowners. (Tin Mountain did a similar solar project this past fall.)
- Sustainable Energy Resources Group ([SERG](#)) - promotes energy conservation, efficiency and renewables through the formation of town energy committees to help residents, businesses and the municipalities reduce energy consumption, save money, increase the sustainable use of renewables, strengthen the local economy and improve the environment.

Broadband

- Broad band survey and speed test article ran in Granite State News & the Independent. Did anyone see in the Conway Daily Sun?
- Keep issue on the team's radar. May be a group that would like to form a subcommittee at the Annual Meeting in June.

Business Incentives – will talk about at May meeting – might be a good topic to bring to the June Annual Meeting.

(Carried forward):

- Look at what other's have already done before go too far.
- County website might be an appropriate location for county-wide economic information and then the towns could link to that info from their websites.
- PSNH report is an example of some of the state-wide economic info that might be helpful to include.

Annual Community Meeting – June 16

Team will report out on what they have been working on. Outline their next steps and invite attendees to get involved. There will be time for a breakout meetings for each team.

Follow up tasks (See team's action plan):

- Transportation follow-ups – (Noreen)
- Follow up calls to specific contacts in towns/schools – (all)
- Subcommittee conference call on Friday, 4/15 (biomass committee)
- Attending the Heating the Northeast with Renewable Biomass Conference (Chuck)
- Finalize handouts, times and food for bus tour (biomass committee)