

Balancing Economic Development & Environmental Stewardship Meeting Notes July 19, 2011



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

Next meetings: August 9 & Sept. 13 at 8:00 am at Tri-County CAP Resource Center

Decisions Made

- Biomass energy tour will be Friday, November 4th. Confirming date with sites.
- Goal is to get people on the tour – 1 person from most towns, preferably municipal or school person. Focus on this first then expand invite list as able.
- Focus team's energy on biomass tour; do this well.
- "Sharpen" invitation and talking points.

Discussion

Report from June forum – what we learned

- Good presentation; was fast – had to be focused.
- Pay attention to what other groups are doing that are similar. Collaborate, support others and cross promote where the work overlaps. Don't reinvent the wheel.
- Mid-June timing was tough. Looking at moving earlier in the year; beginning of April or last week of March.

Agreed to do:

- Confirm date with Winnisquam (Leona), Tuftonboro (Noreen), Sarah Smith (Cyndi/Wendy)
- Rework invitation (Art, Mike, Ray)
- Plot out tour time & mileage (Noreen)
- List of NH biomass facilities (Leona get from Sarah Smith)
- Get selectman & school board Sept. meeting dates (Brian)
- Verify town contacts (Noreen)
- Gather talking points Tuftonboro & Winnisquam (Brian)
- What's up at Carroll County? (Cyndi call Dorothy Solomon)

Wood Biomass Energy Tour

Ask tour sites to speak to the following:

- How boiler works. Maintenance – who and how.
- Cost savings. Payback timeframe.
- Would they recommend to others? What would they do different?
- What made you nervous/what did community contemplate? How did that work out?
- Where do you get your fuel from?

Invitation:

What's our "pitch"? Be clear about main purpose of the tour and communicate this clearly. Art, Ray and Mike will work on updating the invitation and our talking points.

- Save town (tax-payer) dollars
- Positively impact the local economy and environment
- Goal – have people see wood burning boiler in action and think about whether it would be a good option for their community.

Who?

- Focus on municipalities and schools first; include town energy committees.
- Reach out to those who were originally interested.
- Expand to hospitals or businesses after we reach main goal. The best way is for team members to ask people they know.

Information – how much and what?

- We want enough information to be helpful for participants and to know where to point people for more in depth information.
- Have an overall tour leader who is a subject expert. Reconnect with Sarah Smith to see if she can make the new date.
- Review existing handouts at August meeting.

Follow-up

Be ready to follow-up with people right away to get feedback. Work on this at August meeting.

Other Energy – energy efficiency

Energy efficiency can yield as much economic benefit for towns and schools as changing their heating source. The work to improve lighting, insulation, etc. can also support local jobs.

Business Incentives and Waste & Recycling

The group will focus on these after the biomass tour. The group agreed that it was critical to make one thing be very successful. These topics can go back on the front burner if there are a couple of team members that would like to work on one of these while other members are working on the biomass tour. Pat Jones did pull together some preliminary information about business information on town websites.

Attendance: Art Slocum, Brian Walker, Mike Benoit, Noreen Downs, Ray O'Brien, Cyndi Paulin (Communicated about time conflict Leona Simon, Pat Jones & Dorothy Solomon)

August Meeting: – Finalize invitation and “talking points”, decide who will reach out to which towns, review handout packet, plan follow-up (August or September)

Meeting Schedule:

Tuesdays – 8:00 – 9:30 am

- August 9
- September 13
- October 11
- November 15
- December 13