

CCU Balancing Economic Development and Environmental Stewardship Team
15 July, 2010

Present: Cimbria Badenhausen, Leo Spencer, Marletta Maduskuie, Ed Maduskuie, Cathy Baybutt, Ray O'Brien, Chuck Henderson

Homework:

Between meetings the group will work on a tool to collect the following information needed to take next steps. The goal is to consistently collect the same information in a way that will impose the least on the towns.

Information to collect from towns:

1. Cable (asking for purposes of broadband access)
 - a. Cable contract renewal dates and name of cable company
2. Does the town have a Natural Resources Inventory as part of their Master Plan
3. Does the town have Natural Resources protection regulations? IF so, what are they. (Or, do we want to ask about specific regulations?)
4. Does the town have a website?
 - a. And, would the town place a link to Carroll County United on their website?
5. Has the town had an energy audit?
 - a. Town buildings?
 - b. School buildings?
 - c. Status (done, in process, planned, no plans)
 - d. If they have had an audit, what were the recommendations
6. Waste and recycling information
 - a. Cost per year of waste disposal
 - b. Town population
 - c. (Get questionnaire from DES about these questions and ask the same ones. Ray has)

The group quickly reviewed the discussions that happened at the June 17 meeting, what tasks had been accomplished since then and what still needed to be done (according to the list of tasks on the A3). Ray said he and Mark McConkey had spoken with Russ Dowd at Pine Tree Power (PTP), a local power generation plant fueled by wood chips, about the possibilities of using the steam/heat produced at the plant as a byproduct of creating energy. He said that Pine Tree Power is a smaller company owned by an international company that is not willing to participate in such a program. But Russ did talk to him about Forest Service money that will be available for the next 60 days, information which got passed along to County Commissioner David Sorensen. Chuck said there is legislation that might be coming up that will incentivize cogeneration or increased efficiency for PTP.

The group also discussed the details of biofuel usage. A ton of wood chips is comparable to 66 gallons of oil (30-35 tons/tractor trailer load). The benefits of wood chips to PTP include a cheap source of product (\$35/ton), supporting local providers and easily burned. They don't have to be manufactured like wood pellets but they have a higher moisture content, but there's minimal cost in "producing" wood chips compared to the cost of producing wood pellets. Fly ash from the plant then gets sold to farmers to supplement the potassium content in the soil.

Is this a reasonable source of energy for the new nursing home in Ossipee? The nursing home would probably only need 1-2 truckloads a week during the heart of the heating season. UNH uses methane, which is produced by the Waste Management landfill in Manchester, but it is supplemented by another

source of energy. External wood furnaces are another source of energy for smaller businesses, but there are regulations (air quality) on them now in some areas. Another issue with combustion is the particulates and chemicals that come out of the stack, too.

Tasks from A3

6b - organization that is helping schools with energy audits: Cimbria and Chuck said the name of the organization that takes energy audit information from area schools is the Jordan Institute. Schools are responsible for doing their own audits, and then they send the information to the Jordan Institute. Lytech did the audit for the Brett School in Tamworth (got a grant to help the school) and the town of Tamworth. The Lakes Region Planning Commission also has an energy task force that is working on the same issue. Cimbria said she will put together a list of the towns who have done energy audits and what was recommended to them and which towns plan on addressing the issue.

6c - list of local resources: Ed said much of this information is located on www.CleanAir-CoolPlanet.org under a link for "my energy", a website that has a searchable database and resources for people interested in figuring out their energy usage. Another website is the www.CarbonCoalition.org as well as NHEnergy.org, a wiki. Is it worthwhile to be the group that encourages towns to keep their information updated? The value is in sharing the information and best practices and doing the outreach. For example, Conway decided to shut down some street lights on the strip because they weren't necessary (enough lighting from nearby businesses). The key will be to educate people about these issues.

3 - Expand broadband coverage: Chuck reported that NH is going to receive \$44.5 million to expand broadband coverage in the state. The purpose of the money would be to go to local internet service providers (Time Warner Cable, Cyberpine, etc.) to put in systems that would get internet to more people as well as to lay down more infrastructure and increase the bandwidth available to larger institutions. Chuck said he will find out from some of the local ISPs how this is going to affect them. Ossipee hit the news (WMUR channel 9) this morning because there is an area near Water Village that does not have internet and the company will not lay the lines, either.

With respect to public access channels, money comes out of every cable subscriber's bill and is available to towns. What the towns do with it is up to them. Conway gives money to Valley Vision, Madison gives money to MAD TV, and Wolfeboro also has a community TV station. Madison's budget is \$20,000 to run MAD TV.

3a - local providers – no takers

3c - dates of contract renewals by town – to be incorporated into a survey

5a - DES data by town: Ray got that information and has it in an Excel spreadsheet. What's interesting is that according to the data, not all towns compost. The data may not be collected efficiently – do towns define composting differently? What are they doing with the "compost"?

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, Aug. 10 at 8 a.m. Note: the group changed their meeting time from Thursday mornings to Tuesday mornings.