

TA Report 10.22.10

RON BERGER spoke at the Education Study Committee meeting 10/19/10 to a small crowd of about fifty in the gym. The Education Study Committee started the program with an over view of their work during the last four months. They started with 12 potential governance models and are now focusing in on 3 or 4. They include expanding Union 28 to include Pelham, regionalizing Pelham, Shutesbury and Leverett K-6 or K-8, or unionizing Pelham, Shutesbury and Leverett K-6 or K-8. Other models are also being explored.

Ron's presentation helped focus the community and committee discussion on philosophy, size and quality, core elements not to be forgotten as we research the elements of a high quality, financially sustainable educational system.

On Monday, Oct. 25 at 3pm the Committee will be meeting with Principal Bob Mahler at the Shutesbury Elementary school and next Monday, November 1, 2010 at 3pm the Committee will meet in the Amherst Regional Middle School Conference Room with the secondary Principals. These meetings are open to the public.

SHUTESBURY FARMERS MARKET

LAST MARKET OF THE YEAR

Behind Town Hall

Saturday, 8:30am- noon

- Potatoes, garlic, kale, syrup, Swiss chard, pumpkins, winter squash, romaine lettuce- Pat & Gary
- We will be there with organic olive oil, onions, kale, garlic, tomatoes, potatoes, vegetables, organic olive oil, and herbal tea, facial creams and from Birch Moon Farm! - Sarah and Keith
- Wooden and painted wooden baskets –unique sizes for pies, 8 quarts of berries size, or casserole size - Rus
- The 250th Celebration Committee is selling “Always Cooler in Shutesbury” ice tea pint glasses, black “Always Cooler” T-Shirts (photo above) and hats.

So far this year we have not had a single market day when our farmers have sold out their produce. That means every week the people who wake up at 5:30am to pick and wash and load their trucks and pull in to the field behind town hall and set up tables and welcome us with hearty laughs, good conversation and good information take lots of what they raise back home. It seems as a community we should be able to muster the demand to match the supply that 3-4 small farms create. How many pounds of potatoes, onions, garlic, carrots, squash, pumpkins, berries, greens and tomatoes do they harvest? How many pounds of vegetables does Shutesbury buy from local farms? from neighboring towns? from the Co-op, from farm shares? from Stop & Shop? from Big Y, Atkins? And how many pounds of vegetables do Shutesbury residents grow in their back yards? How many eggs do we buy collectively as a town and from where? How many eggs do we produce? These are questions the Farm and Forestry Commission will be asking you about this winter. Meanwhile, I will be shopping locally, very local- behind town hall this Saturday morning.

STRETCH CODE FORUM October 26, 2010 at 7:00pm at the Town Hall (it was cancelled last week)

The Stretch Code is included on the Special Town Meeting warrant for October 26 at 7pm. Adoption of the Stretch building code is the fifth criteria for the town to be classified as a “Green Community” and become eligible for a new pot of alternative energy grant money. This Stretch building code has many similarities to the new 2009 Building code that came into effect 7/1/10. “The purpose of 780 CMR 120.11 is to provide a more energy efficient alternative to the base energy code for new and existing buildings. A municipality seeking to ensure that construction within its boundaries is designed and built above the

energy efficiency requirements of 780 CMR may mandate adherence to this appendix,” from DOER Stretch Code Adoption process.

As of September 21, 2010, 47 Mass. Communities have adopted the Stretch code. The Stretch Code is a performance-based approach compared to a prescriptive based approach. Blow door test will be used to achieve a HERS (house energy rating system) score of 65 for a house greater than 3000 square feet and 70 for a house less than 3000 square feet. A 65 HERS rating means that the home will achieve 35% greater energy efficiency than a home built to the 2006 Building Code standards. Please come to the forum and learn more about this. A helpful website is:

http://www.mass.gov/?pageID=eoeaterminal&L=4&L0=Home&L1=Energy%2C+Utilities+%26+Clean+Technologies&L2=Energy+Efficiency&L3=Policies+and+Regulations+for+Energy+Efficiency&sid=Eoeea&b=terminalcontent&f=doer_Energy_Efficiency_Building_energy_Codes&csi=d=Eoeea Or go to the Mass.gov DOER website and search for STRETCH CODE. Please call with questions.

Questions raised about adoption or the Stretch Code are what will it add to construction costs, what will it save in energy costs over time, how much does it cost to hire a HERS rater? Are there any available? I have attached a Q & A sheet to address some questions. Please come to the meeting to discuss this new initiative.

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING October 26, 2010 at 7pm in Town Hall Feel free to call me ahead of the meeting with any questions you have on the Special Town Meeting Warrant Articles.

RECREATION COMMITTEE IS LOOKING FOR A NEW START -5 NEW MEMBERS!

People interested in Volleyball, biking, swimming, softball, hiking, & horseshoes.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE IS LOOKING FOR ONE NEW MEMBER

To tromp in the woods around wetlands, botanical identification, reporting

LIBRARY TRUSTEES ARE LOOKING FOR ONE NEW MEMBER

Champion New York Times crossword puzzle solver and tight space specialist

SOLAR REPORT 4169 kWh produced in 1461 Hrs (of SUN light), 10/22/10 at 4:21pm

October 15, 2010	eKW/1 DAY	CUM SUN HRS/1 DAY	CUM KW/h	CUM SUN HRS/
POLE # 1	8.7	9.0	821.5	933
POLE # 4	8.6	9.0	777.5	929
Start date 8/5 2 & 3				
start date 6/28	17.9	9.0	2570.7	1461
Total TODAY	35.2		4169.7	1461
Clear & cloudy ss stands for sunshine)	35.2kWh	Oct 14 was	62kWh	Sun makes all the difference

Becky Torres,

Shutesbury Town Administrator townadmin@shutesbury.org

413-259-1214