Shutesbury Energy Committee Meeting March 7, 2011

Minutes

Attending: Larry Hunter, Clark Sylvester, Steve Rice, Bruce Davidson, and Becky Torres

The minutes from the previous meeting (2/7/11) were not available. Reading and approval will be conducted at the next meeting.

Old Business:

<u>SREC Update</u> – Becky has determined that in order for Shutesbury to obtain the SRECs an automated recording system must be installed. This will cost the town initially \$400 for installation and then \$200/yr for service. Even with these additional charges, the benefits far outweigh the costs. Becky will try to wrap up this week.

<u>Mass Energy Insight/Baseline Development</u> – Our electric and other energy use is being downloaded into a system, Mass Energy Insight. There are some issues with getting the input correct and the results to display properly. This info is needed to fulfill the requirements for the Green Community Act. She will try to resolve the problem before the next meeting.

New Business:

<u>Solar PV's</u> – There was a problem with the outside disconnect switch. Apparently it was accidently turned off due to falling snow or ice. We lost some energy production in February due to this problem. A cover for the switch needs to be installed to prevent this problem from reoccurring in the future.

The angle of the panels needs to be adjusted. Members of the committee will meet this Saturday, 10 AM to adjust the panels.

New Alternative Energy and Conservation Projects

More solar power at the school was brought up. The roof at the school needs to be redone soon which presents a problem with adding more solar. Also, snow covered the current panels much of the winter, so this needs to be thought through for future work. Installing pole mounted system would require the removal of trees. Topic was postponed to a future date.

Conservation measures were discussed. We briefly reviewed the previous energy audit reports. Becky will distribute to the group so we all have copies. Work on the town hall was completed. We thought we could take some pictures with the IR camera to see if the sealing and insulation work was effective. Becky will look into the IR camera at the fire station. Steve will contact Craig to see if he can help.

The school apparently needs a lot of work. There is some work being done by Johnson controls on the HVAC system to improve efficiency. Additional sealing and insulation work is also needed.

Next Steps:

- 1. Becky will check out fire station IR camera. Steve will contact Craig to see if he can help. We will meet Saturday AM to adjust PVs and take IR pictures.
- 2. Install cover on exterior solar disconnect switch. Becky.
- 3. Rectify Mass Insight Energy System inputs Becky.
- 4. Complete automatic data reporting system to obtain SRECs Becky.
- 5. Review energy audit reports to determine next steps on energy conservation measures committee.

Next meeting is Monday, April 4th at 7 PM.