

TA Report 12.23.10

TOWN HALL Plans for redoing the ceilings at town hall upstairs hallway, Assessors /Collectors/Treasurers offices and the Town Clerk's office and copy room are continuing. The target date of January 6, 2011 is shaping up. Committee and Board meetings starting January 6 will be moving to the Elementary School. Stay tuned for more details. Information will be listed on the Shutesbury.org website. Town hall will remain open but there will be limited meeting space. Even lo-VOC paint can be a concern so we want to be sure any one entering the building is aware of its condition.

250TH MOONLIGHT BEACH BALL at LAKE WYOLA STATE BEACH 9/10/11! Put it on your calendar and get ready to dance!

The first event is a kickoff bonfire at the Fire Station, with music, and refreshments. Representative Steve Kulick will join us on **Saturday, January 8, 4-6pm**. Many events are planned. Look for details in your next mailing. "Shutesbury, Always Cooler," glassware, hats and t-shirts are available at town hall. A great deal of work has gone into planning and organizing. Thanks to the 250th Anniversary Committee. 2011 is within view!

FIRE STATION CLEAN UP

I think it will be good to take a little time over the holidays to evaluate the possibilities. I will be back with information in January.

GREEN COMMUNITIES DESIGNATION NOT AWARDED TO SHUTESBURY THIS ROUND

Three of the 5 criteria were signed off on for this round. Two were not approved. Criteria 3, 20% Energy Use reduction plan while based on a comprehensive energy audit did not include vehicles. The vehicles must be added. Criteria 4, Policy to Purchase only Fuel-Efficient Vehicles, applies to non-emergency vehicles less than 8500 pounds. All town vehicles are exempt from this requirement currently. The assumption was made that our highway pickup was not exempt. It is 8600 pounds, therefore exempt. This has to be stated in the document. So for Shutesbury, criteria 4, requires an alternative Transportation Demand Management (TDM) document. We have adopted a no idling policy, supported a carpooling campaign, plan for additional parking for commuter use adjacent to the new library, and adopted a 4-day workweek for employees to reduce energy use. The next round for Green Community Designation application will be in the spring. After designation a town is given 2 months to propose the projects they will use their funding for. This delay, while not a good thing, will give us time to better plan for how to best use the funds when we do become designated.

LFNAC members handed off draft 11 of the MBLC grant application to reviewers and Library Trustees today. Thanks to all those who continue, day after day to make this application the best it can be and to those reviewers and Trustees for taking their holiday hours to stay on schedule.

IBEW Local 2324, AG Coakley, and Western Mass towns obtain settlement with Verizon

Aaron Goldman is deciphering the details of the settlement language. The press release states that the agreement requires improvements in 33 wire centers serving 65 municipalities by December 31, 2010. It is not yet clear which 33 locations they are talking about. I will share details as they become clear. Thank you to all the folks in Shutesbury who have worked and worked over the years to highlight the need for improvements.

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