

Greener Hopkinton Meeting Minutes - 09/11/2008

GREENER HOPKINTON

MINUTES

Thursday, September 11, 2008, 6:30 PM, Hopkinton Town Library, Community Room

Present: Diane Hastings, Risa Evans, Bethann McCarthy, Liane Kerbyson, Janet Ward, Susan Covert, Jim O'Brien

-Minutes of August 21 were approved.

-The Committee agreed with Jim O'Brien's suggestion that he present a brief power point report on GH's town-wide energy audit prior to Gary Hirshberg's keynote address at Sunday's (9/14) Eco-Fair. Janet was asked to contact members of the School Board to have them share with Jim a report on the energy audit of Hopkinton schools so that Jim could include this information in his report.

-Susan recommended that GH consider introducing a warrant article asking that future town buildings be built according to energy efficient standards. A recommendation was also made to consider having GH sponsor a public presentation on energy efficient technology such as geo-thermal and solar. This suggestion will be discussed further at our next GH meeting in October. Susan also suggested that a warrant article be recommended that requires that the town require efficient miles per gallon when future town vehicle purchases are made

-Risa suggested that before energy retrofitting is considered, we ought to examine what energy conservation measures could and should be implemented.

ECO-FAIR – FINAL PREPARATIONS:

-Janet was asked to email a final list of exhibitors to all GH committee members and to ask all to share this information with their email lists.

-Those wishing to help at the Eco-Fair were asked to arrive at the High School by 11:45 AM.

-Janet reported that David Salzberg had very kindly created handsome table labels with exhibitors' names, as well as name tags for exhibitors and GH volunteers to wear. Special thanks to David!

E-NEWSLETTER UPDATE: PLEASE NOTE....gmail.com

-Jim reported that all necessary arrangements for our first e-newsletter are now completed. Diane and Risa asked that all GH committee members wishing to contribute articles, recommend websites, or offer suggestions for a GH logo and/or motto send their suggestions to greenerhopkinton@gmail.com. The deadline for submissions for the inaugural issue is SEPTEMBER 26. Appropriate town committees (e.g., Recycling Committee, et al.) will also be asked to submit relevant information on a monthly basis to Diane and Risa for inclusion in the e-newsletter.

-Janet suggested that we ask the Superintendent of Schools to email the first issue to all Hopkinton students' families and once again invite folks to subscribe.

-Diane noted that a logo and motto as well as an e-newsletter title would be important elements. The suggestion was made to ask Hopkinton teachers for suggestions for a motto.

-Bethann suggested that Jim submit a report on the town-wide energy audit to the e-newsletter.

New Business;

-Susan noted that Red River Theatre will present a documentary on last year's Eco-Fair keynote speaker Jim Merkel. Susan will send details when available.

-On Monday the Board of Selectment will consider a report by the Landfill Committee on SMART (previously known as PAYT – Pay as you throw). Kindly check the Town of Hopkinton website for Monday's (September 15) agenda and the time this item will be considered. GH Committee members are encouraged to attend. It is expected that the Selectmen will vote on whether or not SMART will be recommended as a warrant article for the March Town Meeting at the Sept. 15 meeting.

-Bethann shared with the Committee recommended warrant articles regarding enhanced tax exemptions for both solar and wind power. Suggested texts of the warrant articles will be available for consideration at the Eco-Fair. These suggested articles and the response from Fair-goers will be discussed again at our next meeting with a view to submitting amended versions for consideration at Town Meeting in March.

NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16.