

3-26-09

Green Energy Committee
3/26/09 Meeting Minutes

meeting called to Order at 7:11 at Town Hall

Present

Jim Moran, Gene Wyatt, Pine duBois, Brian Spires

Mike O'Meara at 7:20

Minutes by Pine duBois

Agenda

Mark Beaton not able to come to tonight's meeting

Mark Guidoboni, visitor

I.

Town received letter from MTC requesting more info on Zoning issues relative to fall zone and construction site, WWTP, new ramp, Cranberry Road etc. Brian will address zoning issues. We have an interpretation of the zoning by-law that Paul Armstrong has confirmed.

In an effort to review issues of fall zones that violate the standard referenced, Mr. Spires looked into projects MHD is considering relative to installations of renewables on highways.

Additional issues will be addressed by Town counsel and clarified as needed in order to address discrepancies of timing, as appropriate

II.

Discussed Dan Sheehan paper and GEC intention to have engineers review and address the concerns as necessary and appropriate when funding from MTC is authorized and available.

III.

Discuss need to have questions submitted and addressed by candidates to public office: such as:

- Are you aware of the Green Communities Act of 2007 and the opportunities it presents for the Kingston?
- Are you in favor of continuing to pursue the proposed wind turbine at the Wastewater Treatment Plant and Transfer Station?
- Do you support the town's application for MTC funds to complete engineering and evaluate the safe operation and maintenance of a wind turbine the current proposed location?
- Are you aware that Kingston has been studying the location and development of the first wind turbine for four years and that we are in the final stages of design?
- Are you in favor of the town investigating additional sites for further development of wind development in Kingston?

IV.

Discussion of so-called “Minutes of Sewer Commission” of March 25, 2008 that misrepresents name of Green Energy Committee; misquotes the chairman in ways that are biased; and otherwise is not up-front with the nature of the “Minutes” taken which are logged as Sewer Commission minutes of a meeting on town website. The Meeting was Wind 101 hosted by the Green Energy Committee at the Kingston Intermediate School. The problem is in the misrepresentation and unfavorable characterization of the meeting.

The GEC and the Town need to further investigate the appropriateness of the site relative to all the issues for the location, and exploit the opportunities for funding to answer the questions and concerns before assuming that the site is not safe or not appropriate, as the sewer commission is suggesting

- They are challenging the zoning by-law, by suggesting that the WWT is a commercial or residential structure; and,
- Challenging the fit of the turbine near the slip lane etc.

V.

Motion made by Mike O’Meara and second by Jim Moran—unanimous vote:

That the GEC compose a list of questions relative to its mission and current and anticipated projects for consideration by Candidates running for election for town office in the Spring, and post it the Town website and offer it to the press. Questions to submit follow:

- Are you aware of the Green Communities Act of 2007 and the opportunities it presents for the Kingston?
- Are you in favor of continuing to pursue the proposed wind turbine at the Wastewater Treatment Plant and Transfer Station?
- Do you support the town’s application for MTC funds to complete engineering and evaluate the safe operation and maintenance of a wind turbine at the current proposed location?
- What measures would you support to reduce Kingston’s current fleet gasoline and diesel fuel consumption?
- Despite doubling Kingston’s recycling volume over the past year to 17%, the town has the worst record of all South Shore Towns. What measures can you suggest to improve recycling so that when our SEMASS contract expires in 2014, and waste disposal costs triple, we have reasonable measures in place?

Pine make a motion to submit the above question to the press on Friday 3/27 for publication on the GEC webpage and to the media.

Second by Gene

No discussion –Unanimous

Motion to adjourn by Mike O’Meara at 8:50, second by Pine duBois

Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,

Pine duBois