

GREEN TASK FORCE
MINUTES OF February 7, 2011 MEETING

Members Present: Nicki Brill, David Mann, Cathy Talmadge, Ben Meyers, Bruce Haymes, Steve Smith, Steve Edwards, Hal Kendig, Alan Abramson, George Masumian

Members Absent: Ken Bernhard, Wendy Batteau

D. Mann called the meeting to order at 7:05pm. The minutes from the January 3, 2011 meeting were approved.

J. Bergman and E. O'Neill from the Neighbor-to-Neighbor Energy Challenge helped the Green Task Force identify the appropriate "associated contact person" for each community group, town department or business leader identified on their Strategic Outreach Plan.

We discussed preparing a script or talking points for people to use when they contact the people/groups on their lists.

D. Mann gave an update on the intern from the SOAR Energy Initiative from the Norwalk Community College program. The Green Task Force was informed about what projects the intern will be working on—initially the solar project at the railroad station under the guidance of S. Smith

A. Abramson gave an update on the Board of Education meeting held on January 10, 2011 when the discussion of the replacement of oil tanks occurred. The Green Task Force was told that the plans for replacement are on hold until more research has been done by N. Harris. The Board of Education understood the concerns of the Green Task Force and seemed to be asking all the correct questions of the Superintendent of Schools office.

B. Haymes updated on the Green Task Force website and his discussions with the Town offices on next steps. Tremendous progress is being made.

S. Smith introduced L. Cirino to discuss a lecture series about sustainable technologies. L. Cirino discussed the electric car club and then spoke of a lecture temporarily scheduled on May 1, 2011. L. Cirino pointed out the different steps homeowners can take to get "payback" from sustainable technologies and efficiency improvements—"payback" includes carbon reductions as well as financial savings.

The meeting concluded with a discussion of pesticide regulation and "home rule" allowing the Town to determine if it would like to enact more restrictive standards than those of the State DEP. The sense of the meeting was that the Task Force is critically interested in protecting the quality of our water supply and runoff that effects the sound, but needs to examine specific legislative proposals (i.e. the text of proposed bills) and have additional background information on the issues at hand before being able to endorse any given legislative initiative. The Task Force encourages interested parties to bring such information to it in advance of our meetings for review.

The next scheduled meeting is Thursday, March 17, 2011 at 7pm, Room 309, Town Hall

Submitted by:
Alan Abramson
David Mann
Co-Chairs