

**Green Task Force
Minutes of October 16th, 2012 Meeting**

To: Patricia H. Strauss, Town Clerk
Westport, Connecticut

Members Present: David Mann, Robby Gershowitz, Wendy Batteau, Zack Pensak, Cathy Talmadge (By Proxy)

Members Absent: Alan Abramson, Bruce Haymes, Steve Smith, George Masumian, Hal Kendig, Steve Edwards

David Mann called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.; however, the Task Force did not have a quorum and thus no votes could be taken.

No objections were recorded to the September minutes – official approval will be held over to the November meeting.

David Mann and Pippa Bell Ader updated the Task Force on the status of the Solarize Westport program and on the recent solar home tours around town. Pippa also announced that there would be another solar tour with 3 houses (one new) on November 11th from 10 am-3 pm, a solar workshop at the Library on November 1st at 7:30 pm, and another solar workshop at the Unitarian Church on November 11th at 12:30 pm. The Task Force was told that 8 contracts had been signed in Westport as of October 16th and that Interfaith Housing would have Solarize Westport in their handout.

The Task Force then discussed the information Pippa had presented and came to the conclusion to target people moving to new homes and people who are renovating their homes, and additionally concluded to postpone putting Solarize Westport yard signs up until after the election. Wendy Batteau agreed to head up this initiative.

Pippa Bell Ader then updated the Task Force on the status of the Neighbor to Neighbor Home Energy Challenge. She told the task force that referrals are slowing down, and that people must be reminded that they must have a HES visit in order to get solar panels on their homes.

David Mann then updated the Task Force on the status of C-PACE. Currently Gail Kelly, the town attorney, was looking into the agreement with an attorney from CEFIA, and after Gale was finished, it would have to get RTM approval.

The Task Force then discussed the possibility of financing 2-3 microgrants for sustainability initiatives in the community. It was suggested that an “ad” be drafted in December for microgrants to hopefully be put out in January with a 6-week deadline, and to then be voted on by the Task Force in early spring. It was suggested that students at Staples High School would be interested in applying for microgrants.

The Task Force then discussed the progress of the Solarize Staples initiative. It was announced that Kevin Green would come to the Green Task Force meeting next month to run the Task Force though the numbers for the program. It was inquired whether or not the Task Force could get the energy numbers for Long Lots Elementary School as well. It was decided that Mike Aitkenhead, Robby Gershowitz, and Zack Pensak would present the proposal to the Board of Education as a non-agenda item at their meeting in November.

David Mann adjourned the meeting at 8:43 p.m.

Submitted by:

David Mann
Chair

Robby Gershowitz
Secretary