

Town of New Lebanon Conservation Advocacy Council  
Meeting Minutes  
November 10, 2010

Attendees: Trina, David, Damon, Anna, Craig, Kevin, Meredith (Courtney Strong, Inc., NYSERDA)

4:44pm Call to order by Trina

Begin with quick description to Meredith re: CAC charge(s), open space inventory (OSI), Land Use Survey (LUS), some recent issues e.g. West Lebanon Mine, education, how does CAC input on any possible disturbances to groundwater/other resources

Meredith focuses on local governments, mid-Hudson Energy Smart Communities Program. Prepared packets of available resources from NYSERDA, offered services, energy efficiency audits, greenhouse gas audits, etc. for the town. Can help with grant writing, etc.

Trina mentions that she has sent the grant for ARRA (stimulus) money to Town Council (unresponsive), good time to encourage Town of New Lebanon as we retrofit the Town Hall. Trina asked if Meredith could help advance this agenda with the town. Incentives for new construction and substantial reconstruction. Meredith listed several of the incentives available e.g. PV, Wind, Geothermal. Will help us to fill out application(s). Will get on the December (second Monday 13th) agenda for the Town Board.

New York State Climate Smart Communities Program (no towns in Columbia County). This also helps Clean Air Cool Planet

Tentative December 11th referendum scheduled for Town Hall Project. To dedicate Town funds for the project so that they are not absorbed by the general budget. This is an avenue to encourage a "yes" vote by showing heightened fiscal conservatism by soliciting grants to help pay for the project as well as cost less over time to operate.

Motion (Trina) to approve minutes from 09.22.2010. David seconds, Unanimous approval.

Discussion of CAC role in Town Hall project:

-Trina will give NYSERDA grant/incentive packet to Kent Pratt (?) Construction Manager for Town Hall renovation.

-Craig will write Darrow School letter of support for working with NYSERDA in advance of this meeting.

-What does the CAC recommend? Energy Audit? Individual programs?

-Craig moves that Trina will request a meeting with the Town Supervisor and Town Hall project Construction Manager to present them with the fact that Meredith from NYSERDA will be present at the Dec 13th meeting, and that she will help the Town to apply for programs and grants. Kevin seconds. All in favor.

-CAC will research the Climate Smart Communities Program for New Lebanon. David seconds. All in favor.

Future goals for CAC is to provide Town government with encouragement that the Town work toward a policy of using NYSEDA to audit any future construction of Town properties, as well as requiring similar audits for private construction and renovation.

Next meeting Wednesday December, 8th, 2010, SEC at Darrow.

Trina motion to adjourn 6:03, Craig seconds, all approved