

Tamworth Volunteer Energy Committee
Cook Memorial Library
August 27, 2008
Draft MINUTES

Attending: Donna Veilleux, Lee and Peg Custer, Sam Sayers, Cathy Mersfelder, Michelle Cleveland (via phone for NEGEF grant discussion)
Regrets: Cimbria Badenhausen

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

Public Comment Period

Bun Nickerson and Robert Stroud expressed interested in the TVEC's mission and activities.

Approval of Minutes of August 6, 2008.

Approved Minutes with two edits noted. Sam will edit and email final version to Donna.

TVEC Chair, Donna Veilleux's Report

On behalf of TVEC, Donna welcomed Cathy Mersfelder back to TVEC's monthly meetings. Cathy co-launched the Tamworth Energy initiative with Donna and all of us are eager to once again engage her in TVEC's mission. We will all enjoy Cathy as much as her healing process permits.

- BOS Meeting: BOS liked the idea of approaching utilities about taking the wood from the Utility/subcontractor tree/limb cuttings to assist Tamworth residents in a need of additional sources of fuel. The wood is green this year and the Town has to review liability issues to fulfill this idea. Positive idea that could become a viable option for Tamworth residents next year.
- PLEASE NO IDLING: Signs will be located in the front of the Town Office and 2 more will be placed, exact location TBD. Donna will contact the NH DOT office and request additional signs.
- Idling info handouts with residential registrations for town office: Donna spoke with Kim in the Town Office and she and the BOS are comfortable in handing out this information. IDEA: TVEC will provide Town Office with a ream of recycled copy paper.
- Streetlights: Donna contacted PSNH and established a new contact for TVEC, Kathleen Lewis. PSNH contact will join Donna and Willie Farnum at a TBD meeting date to discuss the information from the audit on Tamworth's streetlights.
- Grant money purchase recommendation: OPEN to be discussed at next meeting.

- Governor's Climate Change Policy Task Force Roundtable invitations: EMAIL invites were extended to the Chair's of the Board of Selectmen, Planning Board, Tamworth Conservation Commission and members of the Master Plan Committee. Meeting will be in North Conway on September 29.
- New members: Bun Nickerson attended meeting after interacting with TVEC members during its display at Chocorua Day. Sam needs to email Donna some contact information on interests generated at Tamworth Day. Sam and Donna will work on a recruitment plan.
- Communication/Letter to Post Office officials about No Idling signs:
 - Donna received final edits and Michelle will follow-up with Tamworth Post Office in September.
 - Donna will customize letter and send to School Board members. She will also attend the Board's next meeting and discuss placing the no-idling signage for vehicles other than buses. We think that buses already do not idle at the school; this will be confirmed.
- Tamworth Town Garage: If there is a building committee, Donna recommends that TVEC has a representative on it. Sam Sayers was recommended.

Lee Custer's Report

- TVEC outreach for an education partnership with Brett School
Lee spoke with Principal, Noel DeSousa and one of the first steps is for the TVEC to understand the NH standards for education—Noel will send to Lee. He expressed interest in the Brett School 'community' becoming involved. Noel will get together with his teachers and set up a time for a team of the teachers to meet with TVEC. A possible future partnership activity could be an Energy Fair with students.
- Lee did an internet search and has 33 pages of information on energy conservation curriculum and initiatives with schools. He has a curriculum from one the sites for our future review.
- NO IDLING SIGNS at Chocorua Lake: Talked with Jim Bowditch. Jim will bring this to the Association's next meeting.

Sam Sayers' Report

- New Prospects: Sam is still talking with people. Kathy Mersfelder will contact Klaus regarding a role with TVEC education initiatives.
- TVEC outreach display will be at the Tamworth Transfer Station on Saturday, September 20 from 9-1.

Peg Custer's Report

- The Custer's purchased Kilowatt Ours' short version DVD. This version costs \$95 per disc. TVEC should view and discuss. Peg and Lee indicate that it is informative and most likely suitable for 8th – 12th graders.
- Peg will contact Paul Chant.

Michelle Cleveland's NEGEF Grant Update

- Planning for 2009 Application
New England Grassroots Environmental Fund accepts one application a year. TVEC and its newly formed Education and Outreach Chair, Cimbria, with fellow Committee members and new subcommittee members can take the next two quarters to partner with Tamworth education entities and develop a plan that supports each school's or partnering schools plan on energy conservation. NEGEF could be one of several grants a partnership like this could apply.
- 2008 NEGEF Grant Update
Michelle has prepared a draft grant update that includes TVEC activity to date and expense report. She will bring to September's meeting.
- NEGEF's retreat for grantees is on October 10-11 in Amherst, MA.
At this time, there are no TVEC committee members available to attend.

2008 Election Day Activities

- TVEC hopes to have a presence at the Town House for Election Day: the TVEC Display and distribution of the NEGEF grant supported CFL light bulbs and related disposal directions.
- Tamworth Civic News/ Article on Tamworth Energy Committee:
Peg Custer will draft an article for the November 1 issue. Articles are due on October 15.

New business, old business

- Donna is keeping a record of emails regarding TVEC.
- The Custers' will be unavailable for the September and October TVEC meetings.

NEXT TVEC MEETING

- TVEC's next meeting will be on Wednesday, September 24, at 7:00 p.m. at the Cook Memorial Library

Public and TVEC Committee Discussion Topics:

Wind Energy/turbine plans?

Methane usage from old dump?

Meeting adjourned at 9:06 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Sam Sayers, TVEC Secretary