

**Recycling and Renewable Energy Committee
Minutes from 3 September 08, 5-6:30pm, Town Hall, Provincetown**

Attending: Mike Leger, Lee Bartell, Connie Black, Jane Donoghue, Amy Germain

Preceding Minutes from 6 August: Amy moved to approve as written, Mike seconded, 5/0.

Preceding Minutes from 25 August: Amy moved to approve as amended, Jane seconded, 5/0.

Cape & Vineyard Electric Cooperative: Amy spoke with Maggie Downey who reported that the lawyers have almost got the work done, so we're close to signing up with our \$25 fee. The Cape Light Compact & Con Edison are working together with the goal of after 10 years, it reverts to the towns, so if energy costs 22 cents/kw now, it'll then cost 17 cents. Maggie wants to come and talk to us and the Selectboard. Lee made a motion for Amy to move forward with asking Maggie to do this, and to get a date on the Selectboard calendar, Jane seconded, 5/0.

Recycling: We had a long discussion on recyclables, clear bags, trash and recyclables pick ups, sorting the glass and plastic/cans. Jane showed us figures that show that recycling is down in all categories except plastic since last year. We wonder if statistics are collected differently by our previous hauler and our current one, and that that would be the explanation. We also wonder if the small amount of glass could actually be left in the plastic/cans compactor, which would negate the need to sort through it. Jane'll contact Christine Derosa from Integrated Paper Recyclers to find out.

Grant: Amy'll check with David Gardner to see who'll be the paid employee whose name will be on the application for our recycling mesh bins from the DEP grant. Then it'll get sent in. Thanks, Amy.

FAA: Mike told us that the FAA initially said that based on existing data, we could build a wind turbine no taller than 88', but that they base their findings on "ballpark" info. If we hire an engineer, then the data is more accurate, and it bumps us up to 2C Certification, which allows up to 170'. (Note: Hull's turbines are 250' which includes the blade sweep). Mike will get in touch with the Mass. Technical Collaborative and the Selectboard to inform both of these findings. The next step would be for an 80' "Met Tower" (meteorology), or a "Test Tower". Lee moved that we combine both the Mass Tech. Coll. and the Cape Light Compact presentations into one meeting with the Selectboard, Jane seconded, 5/0.

Plastic Bags: Connie spoke with a Nantucket official who said that Nantucket has had a bylaw on banning plastic bags for a long time, but it's just recently been enforced. A recent law just passed for clear bags to be used for trash, but it hasn't worked because they have a shortage of people to do the policing. (Note: a number of communities that have switched to clear bags for trash have found that recycling numbers seriously increase, as folks keep recyclables out of the trash). Mike will look online and see the bylaw and whatever else he can learn.

Winter Vacations: Mike reported that he'll be away Jan-Mar, so someone else needs to be the temporary chairperson. Any volunteers?

Environmental Stewards: Brian Carlson sent us info about this concept, plus requests a letter of recommendation from us for a grant that he's submitting to the New England Grassroots Environmental Fund to help start up an Environmental Stewards Program. He writes that this initiative is being sought to help coalesce the many environmental projects the Town is working on and to help advance our common goals of becoming a more "green" town. Amy moved that Mike will meet with Brian, Jane seconded, 5/0.

Board of Health: We need a joint meeting with them to figure out how we can help them enforce recycling rules by all haulers.

Doorhangers: Mike said that the DEP grant includes 2000 doorhangers, which we could print as our

own, with recycling info on them, and once again, hopefully piggy-back with the census. This could be one of our winter projects.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30pm

Minutes by Lee

Next Meeting: Wednesday, 1 October 2008, 5pm, Town Hall

[Lee Bartell](#)