



# TOWN OF NEW LONDON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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## ENERGY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES August 7, 2013

**PRESENT: Bill Spear (Chair), Margie Weathers, Leigh Bears**  
**ABSENT: Dave Harris, Joan Cobb, Brian Armentrout, Alison Seward, Alan Owens, Michael Rodriguez**

Chair Spear opened the meeting at 7:06pm. He said that they had to wait on approving the minutes from July until the next meeting, as those in attendance had not reviewed them yet. He commented that Mr. Rodriguez's participation was important to their Energy 101 plans.

Heather, from Revision Energy, would be working with the Energy Committee on this effort by providing the "how to" with regards to energy savings and sustainability. Alan Owens (committee member and Facilities Manager at New London Hospital) had invited Mike Bruss from Bruss Construction to that night's meeting, as he would be another good resource for sustainability discussions. Unfortunately, they were both unable to make it that evening.

### Sustainable Workshops

Chair Spear said that these workshops had to do with things consumers can do on their own (insulation, replacement of doors and windows) and then they would offer information about the next step by introducing things such as photo voltaic and solar hot water. They would explain available grants and the process by which they could be attained. They have several people who have offered their own homes/businesses to display what kinds of things a homeowner can do to be more sustainable. Tom Mills from the Flying Goose has done many things which could be shown on a group tour, perhaps after holding an Energy Committee meeting at the restaurant.

### Projects & Recommendations from the Last Meeting

There were no updates on the Green Business Alliance.

Chair Spear said that at the last meeting, Mr. Owens gave a good review of the hospital and what they are doing. He is very interested in solar hot water systems for the hospital and perhaps after some more information is gathered such a system could be implemented.

Chair Spear said he is still working on his recycling project, which he will be presenting to NH DES. He would invite the Energy Committee to the meeting. Once feedback is attained from this meeting, the next step is to present the information to the Town of New London to see what changes they could implement in their own recycling efforts.

### Regional Transportation

Chair Spear said he has seen Mike Meller several times at McKenna's and he hasn't heard back from those he is waiting to hear from. He will keep Mr. Meller on the email list for the Energy Committee's agendas and plans so that when he has information to pass on to the committee, he can more easily do so.

### Facebook Page

Mr. Rodriguez would need to update them on this at the next meeting.

Promotion of the Energy Committee Investment Fund

Chair Spear said he met with the Trustees of the Trust Funds in the past about diverting some of the Town's funds into sustainable funds. They did some research and said they can't find any funds of this nature that match the return of the funds they are currently using (which are not sustainable) and they cannot legally transfer funds that are doing well into another fund, merely because it is sustainable. It was suggested that the Energy Committee provide their own funds to be invested in a sustainable fund, which the Trustees would then manage for them.

Chair Spear thought they should start moving forward with this initiative after Energy 101 is complete, but thought people should start thinking about how they could raise funds. They have to create rules for the fund and state a goal for which the money made in the fund could be used. Once the mission is created, they could move forward with fundraising.

Workshop Partnerships with the Andover Energy Committee

Chair Spear said that Larry Chase from the Andover Energy Committee sent him a letter about a workshop they are planning on Residential Wind Power in September, and another one in October on Financing Alternative Energy and Renovations. They are working with Lake Sunapee Bank on the financing workshop. It was wondered if the two Energy Committees could work together to promote both of these workshops. Those at the meeting thought this was a good idea. Chair Spear said that the workshop in October could include the help of ENACTUS at the College but that they wouldn't be able to help with the September workshop as it was coming up too quickly and they wouldn't have a chance to get organized.

Other Business

Ms. Weathers wondered if the Energy Committee could meet more often as when someone isn't able to make the one meeting per month, momentum is lost. She thought they should try to have more meetings to get things done. Chair Spear thought that was a great suggestion. He thought perhaps meeting twice per month would be good.

With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 7:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristy Heath, Recording Secretary  
Town of New London