

Energy & Solid Waste Work Group Core

Meeting Notes of January 17, 2007, 4:00 p.m. Howes House, West Tisbury

Members Present: Don Hatch, Kitt Johnson (telephone), Paul Pimentel, Kate Warner

Members Absent: Phil Forest, Dick Knabel, Fred Lapiana, Bart Smith, Russell Smith (Chair), Paul Strauss

MVC Staff Present: Bill Veno

Others Present: David Nash, Sharon Strimling Florio, Jim Newman

The meeting started at 4:05

1. Administrative

Core Group Leadership: There was no movement on the issue of identifying a new chairman for the core group.

Waste Subcommittee: The core members briefly discussed having the more waste-oriented members set up a separate meeting to focus on the waste issues and strategies but decided to wait until the core group had developed a framework within which to examine and compile information so as not to create something incompatible with the energy issues. Bill noted that the Steering Committee shares that concern across all work groups and, with work group core chairs and Steering Committee liaisons, will be developing a framework that should aid the work groups in proceeding.

Electronic Communication: Kate expressed dissatisfaction with the manner by which the comments and revisions were being made. Others observed that members had been given no one method for submitting their comments. Paul suggested that the website forum might be useful in this instance. Bill said the new forum software is currently being tested, but that the original forum software remains useable. The core came to no resolution to this commenting issue.

2. Topic Statements

Bill distributed a version of the core's January 3 prioritization of full work group suggestions with added ideas and comments from David, Kate and Paul P. He also had copies of comments from Kitt and Sharon [all attached to these minutes]. Core members were to have proposed a brief statement for each of the four topics the energy and waste issues have been divided into. The group reached consensus on the following statements, recognizing that they are works in progress:

Use Energy Efficiently – Reduce per capita use of energy through the provision of options and employment of efficient technologies and practices

Energy Production – Use local resources to produce all of our electricity and as much clean energy as we can

Waste/Biomass – Reduce per capita waste potential and convert the remaining waste to resources

Transportation – Reduce per capita energy used for transportation

3. Priority Items

The core started with Energy Production. Kate said that locally generating 100% of our electricity needs within 20 years is the easiest of all of the island's energy needs. Also, Samsø Island has shown that it can be done. Discussion about getting each town to have a wind turbine led to acknowledgement that while those would be useful publicity measures, separate turbines are inherently less economic operations. And, while a municipal utility is key to achieving economies of scale, it is a mechanism or strategy to achieving the objective of producing energy. Identifying what areas could be used for large-scale wind turbines (item 12 under this topic) would be among the more useful efforts to undertake.

As core members increasingly understood the variety of goals, objectives and strategies that remained in the prioritized list of items, it was agreed to divide the four topics among the attendees to work on individually. At the next meeting members will share their organization of the items under their own topic for discussion by the entire core group. Assignments were as follows:

Use Energy Efficiently – Paul Pimental

Energy Production – Kate Warner

Waste/Biomass – Don Hatch

Transportation – Sharon Strimling Florio

Members are to note items they feel more appropriately belongs under a different topic.

4. Miscellaneous

In discussing the date of its next meeting, Bill stated that he would prefer the core group to keep to the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, rather than every other Wednesday, because other committee meetings have been set up around that schedule. He suggested that because it was three weeks until the next scheduled meeting, the core could add a meeting before then. Sharon noted that meeting every other week worked best for her. The group decided to add a meeting January 31.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, January 31, 3:00 p.m. at the MVC Building

Agenda: Review by topic individual core member's organization and prioritization

Homework for core members: Paul P., Kate, Don and Sharon are to review their respective topics (see Item 3 above), organizing the list of items and ideas into goals (what it is we want to achieve), objectives (a specific result targeted to advance towards the goal), and strategies (the actions taken to achieve the objective).

Other core members are welcome to attempt their own reviews to share with the group.

The meeting concluded at 6:00

Notes prepared by Bill Venø