

TOWN OF BEDFORD
July 28, 2016
ENERGY COMMISSION MINUTES

ROLL CALL: A meeting of the Bedford Energy Commission was held on Thursday, July 28, 2016 at the Bedford Meeting Room, 10 Meetinghouse Road. Present were Shana Potvin (Chairman), Chris Bandazian (Town Council), Bill Foote (School Liaison), Andrew Gillis, Kevin Flynn, and Matthew Pitaro (Alternate)

Chairman Potvin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and introduced the members of the commission. Jim Aguiar (Town Council Alternate), Christine Donati (Alternate), and Courtney Gray (Alternate) were absent.

1. Town Projects:

a. Status of Library HVAC/Geothermal:

Councilor Bandazian stated the system has been up and operational for the full month of July. They continue to install other equipment and do some fine tuning of the system. The next thing to go in is the interactive monitor. There are a group of individuals, including the Town Manager that will be going up to the Grappone Center in Concord to look at their geothermal system. They are looking at completion of the project in the next few weeks, and we will do some kind of ceremony in September once everything is installed.

Councilor Bandazian stated it would be nice if we could get something on our website to promote this. Vice Chairman Gillis stated we could put the data into the portfolio manager but that is on hold for now.

Councilor Bandazian stated Mike Casella is no longer with CSI, but I would like to try to find someone else to come into one of our future meetings to talk about commercial and governmental geothermal systems.

b. Transfer Station Recycling Numbers:

Chairman Potvin stated the latest set of recycling numbers is very poor, except if you add in scrap metal. I believe they are the worst numbers we have on record and the highest solid waste numbers ever.

Vice Chairman Gillis asked is there a timeframe for doing something with the transfer station? Councilor Bandazian replied it is in the Capital Improvement Plan for 2022, although we could make little tweaks. Vice Chairman Gillis stated there should be other alternatives made for the layout of the center to make it easier for residents to recycle. Mr. Pitaro stated when I was going to the transfer station, I didn't know what to do to recycle. I feel it is an educational issue, and maybe we could work on putting together a guide that could assist residents when they bring their items in. Mr. Foote

stated we could also post public service messages on BCTV or possibly have a student work on a guide as a project.

2. 2016 Focus Areas:

a. Transfer Station:

1. Solar TV Monitor (need a new TV?):

Vice Chairman Gillis stated we do need a new monitor and possibly a new computer. Neither item was rated for outdoor use, so we could possibly raise money to get the proper equipment, which would probably cost a couple of thousand dollars. I will check both pieces of equipment to see if either one is still working.

b. Schools:

1. Recycle Bowl-Keep America Beautiful: No update available.

2. Styrofoam Trays in Schools:

Mr. Foote stated we didn't talk about the Styrofoam trays at the last School Board meeting. Chairman Potvin stated I think if parents are told about replacing the Styrofoam trays with a more eco-friendly tray, they would support an increase in the cost of the lunches, which would probably happen if the switch was made. Mr. Foote stated I will follow up on this at the August 8, 2016 School Board meeting.

3. Student Liaisons from BHS:

Chairman Potvin stated I emailed Mr. King at BHS, but I have not heard back from him yet. I will follow up on this as well.

3. Facebook Page Updates:

Chairman Potvin stated I continue to add and update things on our Facebook page. I have seen that there are some people accessing it.

4. HAREI Partnerships & Events:

a. Planned Energy Raisers:

Vice Chairman Gillis stated HAREI is moving along. There are a lot of installations scheduled, and I think there is one in Bedford. Also, it seems that a lot of people are doing the installs themselves.

5. Bedford Green Business Award Nominations:

a. List of Parameters for Nomination:

Chairman Potvin stated I will put together a list for our next meeting. Also, I would like to approach Target about their potential solar project.

b. Perpetual Plaque at Town Office for all Award Winners:

Chairman Potvin stated I did an online search and found a website where you can design your own plaque. A mock-up of a sample plaque was reviewed by the members. Councilor Bandazian stated I will check into the cost from the Town's current supplier for this type of item.

6. Portfolio Manager: This item is on hold.

7. Old Business:

Councilor Bandazian stated with regard to the pedestrian bridge on Route 101 near Bedford Common, the Town Council voted to send a letter of support, which is necessary for the application that is due on September 1, 2016. Town staff is working on that now.

8. Approval of Minutes: None

9. New Business:

Councilor Bandazian stated the Town has put out a new RFP for an electricity supplier. The existing agreement is expiring; therefore it is time to do a new one. In the past the Town has gone through the Nashua Regional Planning Commission, but the Southern NH Regional Planning Commission has put together a group of private companies, so we will look into that. There are numerous possibilities for supplying electricity.

Adjournment:

MOTION by Councilor Bandazian to adjourn at 7:35 PM. Vice Chairman Gillis duly seconded the motion. Vote taken - all in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by
Valerie J. Emmons