

Green Committee, Town of East Haddam
Regular Meeting
River House
7:00 P.M. Wednesday, January 8, 2014

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 by Chairman Ken Simon

Attendance:

Regular members present: Ken Simon, Martha Hansen, Nancy Pincus, Chad Peterson

Regular members absent: Steve Baklik, Charlene Riling

2. Secretary's Report - Approval of July 3, 2013 minutes

Chad Peterson moved, seconded by Nancy Pincus, to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

3. Committee Membership – update

The Green Committee is authorized to have 11 regular members and 2 alternates.

4. Member's Reports

a) **Community Food Bank Garden update & grant:** Nancy Pincus would like to apply for a \$500 grant from Kitchen Gardeners International. The Sow It Forward grant consists of \$200 cash and \$300 worth of product (non-GMO seeds, etc.). The Board of Selectmen needs to approve the grant. Martha Hansen will ask to have it put on the agenda for the next meeting.

b) **Newsletter:** The next newsletter (Spring 2014) will contain updates on solar power rebates, etc., and an article on global warming, and one on simple activities for Earth Day, among other items. Please email Martha Hansen if you would like to write an article or have a suggestion for a newsletter article.

7. Audience of Citizens: Ben and Will from Next Step Living in New Haven attended the meeting. Next Step Living is a company that offers a whole home approach to help homeowners reduce their carbon footprint and save energy and money. They can set up home energy evaluations (HES) and then connect homeowners with companies that provide air sealing and insulation, energy efficient windows, heat pumps with ductless mini splits (these don't require a lot of ductwork inside the home and provide heating and cooling), and solar panel installation. They can evaluate your house to see if a solar installation would work there. The company also partners with municipalities to offer energy efficiency solutions to residents. Their website is www.nextstepliving.com. They plan to be at Shagbark Lumber on Saturday, January 18, 2014 with information about their services (weather permitting).

8. General Discussion

a) **Green Committee web & Facebook pages:** It would be nice to have our newsletter archives available on our town web page. We could then provide a link to them from our Facebook page. Martha will pursue this.

b) **Projects for 2014:** A film sometime in March (Chasing Ice, Genetic Roulette?) Food Bank Garden – location may change depending on the Middle School plans (referendum to be held sometime this winter), possible Earth Day event, recycling at Music on the River, Farmer's Market table.

Meeting Schedule: next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 5, 2014, 7:00 p.m.

9. Adjournment

Chad Peterson made a motion, seconded by Nancy Pincus, to adjourn the meeting at 8:05p.m. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Hansen, Secretary