

# **Recycling and Renewable Energy Committee**

## **Minutes from 6 May 2009, 5-6:30pm, Community Center, Provincetown**

**Attending:** Amy Germain, Ghee Patrick, Lee Bartell, Mike Leger, Jane Donoghue

**Previous Minutes:** Amy moved to approve, Ghee seconded, 3/0/2

**Health Dept:** Mike showed us a flyer that's the beginning of what the Health Dept. wants to send to all in town about recycling and where the Transfer Station is located. We feel that our vertical card stock that we've been working on is much clearer and more likely to be looked at and referenced. We had a long discussion about this, and Mike will get in touch with Dave Gardner to discuss both items, and see if they can be merged. It would be great if we can piggyback them in the water bills, to individual homes. We also want to see stacks of them all around town.

**Major Question:** We had a really long discussion about whether the town can support us in our effort to increase recycling, or whether the DPW simply can't pick up, sort, and accept more recycling. There's no question that single stream recycling, where everything recyclable is in one container and trash is in another, is the way to go. Until that day comes to town, we need to find out what's possible. Mike will invite Sharon Lynn, our Town Manager, to our next meeting (first Wed. in June), to find out if the town can afford to recycle.

**What's Possible?:** This is the question that Ghee will ask Sandy Turner at the DPW, in a meeting she's going to request. So often, our efforts are met by Sandy's statements that there's simply a shortage of funding, so it can't happen, we have to stop increasing recycling. But it's the law in the Commonwealth, that no recyclables (glass, plastic, paper, cardboard, tin, aluminum, etc.) can be thrown away in the trash. Ghee hopes to have a discussion with Sandy of how we can help the DPW, what can we do to enhance recycling that'll work at the DPW and with collections.

**Our Budget:** We have nearly \$2000 that must be spent by June 30th, and then another \$2000 to be spent after that. If we end up printing our cards, that will use up some of our money, but not all, so possibly we could use some to enhance recycling, and Ghee will bring that up to Sandy.

**Renewable Energy:** We discussed the value of both horizontal and vertical wind turbines, and Lee & Jane talked about the meeting we attended with the Selectboard to hear the presentation of small, horizontal ones, that cost a fraction of the price of big vertical wind turbines, but generate a fraction of their power. Height limitations are dictated by the FAA when the siting is close to an airport. We want to stay connected to the Cape Light Compact, as it's a resource for possible green energy funding.

**Cape & Vineyard Electric Compact:** We need to find a rep to their meetings, which are usually in Barnstable, during the day. If anyone knows someone who might be interested, please let us know.

**Some topics for next meeting:** Jackie Kelly wants to put a solar system on her home; Mass Energy Collective; other possible wind turbine sitings, no higher than 170 feet above sea level.

**Next Meeting: 3 June 2009, 5-6:30pm, Community Center,  
Provincetown**

**Minutes by Lee**