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**Belmont Energy Committee Meeting Minutes
July 17, 2013**

Attending: Ian Todreas, Roger Colton, Jan Kruse, Fred Domenici, Tony Barnes, Lauri Mancinelli, and Phil Thayer (guest).

8:05am: Co-chair Roger Colton opened the meeting. Roger made the motion to adopt the June minutes. Ian Todreas seconded and all approved with minor typo. Corrections suggested by Jan Kruse.

Roger Colton reported on actions he agreed to do re: Belmont becoming a Green Community, which would allow Belmont and its residents to become eligible to apply for state money toward energy efficiency and renewable energy projects. Roger noted that he had not yet put together the pros and cons of Belmont becoming a Green Community. It wouldn't be reasonable to ask Glenn Clancy to put together the required documentation. However, a group could do it and bring it to the Board of Selectmen for whether considering applying since we do have a couple of households in town receiving electricity through N-Star. That reality would allow us to apply as a Green Community without BMLD joining the renewable energy trust.

Fred Domenici reported on school projects he's been working on in recent months. The high school conversion from fuel oil to natural gas heat is going well. It will cost about \$179,000 to convert with first year annual savings of \$244,000 (this includes \$50,000 in rebates). It will also result in reduced air pollution (no more black soot coming out of the smokestacks). Fred will look at using Portflio Manager (the state's carbon calculator). Phil Thayer said he would send Fred information about it. Jan Kruse suggesting calculating the carbon reduction from the furnance conversion. Ian Todreas agreed to do that and Lauri Mancinelli will check the numbers.

Fred also noted that he would like to consider converting the lighting in the schools to energy efficient LED lighting. He will look at attending an upcoming Nstar conference on the topic. Roger Colton suggested that Fred speak with Ralph Jones re: including it in a town's second ESCO project, which Ralph is reviewing. Fred said he would do that.

Fred then reported on the school's car-sharing program for the Belmont school department. Fred signed up all school maintenance members for Zip Car and said he's trying to convince the town business manager to allow a secured credit card or a prepaid debit card could get around the roadblock of needing a credit card to use the Zip Car program. Currently the town doesn't use regular credit cards for town business expenses. Roger volunteered to schedule a meeting in August with Fred and Ralph Jones to discuss this condundrum and also a second town ESCO project.

Next, Fred reported that this fall, the high school field house will reap 40% energy savings by having the school maintenance department install two large air-flow fans. The initial cost will be \$25,000. The plan is over the next 5 years, to install the fans

throughout the school system (1 in each classroom). This will result in tremendous energy savings by pushing the hot air down and improve air quality and comfort.

Roger Colton reported on the Energy Committee and Sustainable Belmont meeting with the Belmont Municipal Light Advisory Board and BMLD's Jim Palmer to discuss the draft and adoption of an Energy Resource Policy. Two steps were discussed at the joint meeting: to include in the FY14 budget, a line item to hire a third-party to outline a demand side management (DSM) energy efficiency plan and programs to be enacted in the FY calendar year. Roger noted that Ralph Jones had said and Roger agreed that plans can be overevaluated so a periodic evaluation would suffice. BMLAB meets next in September and hopefully will adopt the Policy at that time.

Ian Todreas reported on Better Homes Belmont energy efficient heat pump program to offer an incentive for Belmont homeowners who heat with fuel oil and electricity. Next Step Living staff created a website for Better Homes Belmont which the Energy Committee will oversee and update. The Energy Committee needs to write a press release and fact sheet to promote the program this fall. The MOU had not yet been signed by NSL but Ian expected that it would be soon.

At 9:00am, Roger Colton adjourned the meeting.

Minutes respectfully written by Jan Kruse.