

## **Meredith Energy Committee**

**October 13, 2011**

**Approved**

### Members Present

Ken Colburn      Bill Bayard      Mark Billings      Nate Torr  
Reed Leberman      Phil McCormack      Deb Crosby

### Staff Present

John Edgar      Angela LaBrecque

### Consultant

Clay Mitchell

### **Minutes from September 22, 2011**

- Motion to approve from Mark, seconded by Bill. Voted unanimously.

The meeting agenda focused on the regulatory audit conducted by Clay Mitchell's firm SDES as well as the role of energy, as a subject, in the town's Master Plan.

### **Clay Mitchell**

Clay made the observation that Meredith has a unique Master Plan, in that it uses a cross-chapter referencing approach. This approach serves well the incorporation of energy into the Master Plan at the next update, which possibly will occur in 2012.

There is currently no mention of energy in the Master Plan, therefore the concept of an energy chapter with the same cross-chapter referencing built around the energy aspects of shared community values would work very well. An example of that might be the transition to smart meters now taking place throughout Meredith.

There was discussion about how we might incorporate the economic ramifications of the choices made regarding energy sources. Also discussed was the need to be fuel and technology neutral.

Clay discussed a financing strategy that might be applicable for the town's "Capital Improvement Program" where implementation costs could be funded through a revolving line of credit and paid down through monthly cost savings.

Clay asked members of the committee to review the draft of the regulatory audit and forward any feedback to Clay.

### **John Edgar**

Spoke briefly about an energy webinar he participated in where one of the discussions was about streamlining the regulations and permitting process for solar energy. John referenced a website [www.dsireusa.org](http://www.dsireusa.org) a Dept. of Energy site and [www.SanJoseca.org/energy](http://www.SanJoseca.org/energy) as relevant sites.

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Take a ways from the webinar

- Engage stakeholders early and often
- Take a collaborative approach
- Pro-actively pursue solar opportunities
- Predictability of process is critical
- Reach out to other communities

John will formalize his notes and forward to the committee

### **Next Meetings**

- November 10<sup>th</sup>
- December 8<sup>th</sup>

### **Motion to adjourn**

- Motion by Bill, seconded by Mark. Voted unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM