

**Notes of 9/14/09 Meeting
Marshfield Energy and Climate Change Committee**

Attending: Debra Stoleroff, Lawrence Black, Dave Grundy, Rich Phillips, Ed Hutchinson, John Morris, Anne Miller, & Saul Gresser
Convene: 6:35 PM

Business:

1) Updates:

A) Summary of attendance at solar hot water workshop: Forty-five people attended. Only four people from Plainfield and another four or so from Marshfield. Many others were from far a field: E. Hardwick, Lyndonville. Some discussion of how to improve attendance by local audience. No decisions.

B) OSC weatherization work update: Digging started; underdrain installed; wall sealant applied; two inch foam to footing to be completed this coming week; one crab apple tree was moved in process. Monday and Thursday nights, the 21st and 24th, from 6-9 pm, removal of cellulose and old foam insulation will be done; volunteers are needed (7-8 people at least). The foam is scheduled to be applied on October 5th. Additional foam, plywood, screening and stucco work to be completed thereafter. Also, pellet boiler to be installed following completion of insulation work.

C) CEDF Municipal Technical Assistance Program Grant Update: No news yet on this Twinfield solar array grant. Rich in contact with grant source.

D) Transportation Grant Update: Here as well, no news yet. Rich in contact with grant source.

2) Weatherization/ Button-up Workshop: Bob Atchinson, Dave and Rich attended the Button-up "Round 2" mtg with Efficiency Vermont and CVCAC Weatherization staff. EV would like to host additional Button-up workshops this fall. A brief discussion ensued about our interest and what improvements might be made. The committee agreed that we should host another Button-up workshop. A tentative date of Wednesday, October 14th (backup date of the 21st) from 7-8:30 pm, at Twinfield School was decided on. Discussion then centered on feedback from last year and specifics for the upcoming workshop.

All three towns (E. Montpelier, Plainfield, and Marshfield) are again planning on participating. The workshop has been revised to include more visuals and more hands-on work with better-trained presenters. In part, out of feedback from last year's Button-up workshops, EV has produced a 20-minute DVD on home weatherization improvements that it is distributing for a fee. Anne suggested that we get a copy of the DVD for the town library. Dave suggested that we sell additional copies at the next workshop for perhaps 2\$ each.

Most discussion focused on how best to increase attendance. The target audience was identified as townspeople with older homes and poor insulation. Our previous efforts have generated a list of about 80-90 phone numbers and e-mails. This list includes many

of the folks who could benefit from the workshop. This list will be augmented by personal contacts and further community outreach. Debra agreed to seek additional names through her contacts at the school. Dave Grundy will work with the E. Montpelier neighborhood groups to reach folks in that town. (Side Note: it was commented that more work needs to be done in Marshfield to further develop our own neighborhood group network. This could be done using the 911 list sheets in town.) Announcements could be made at the local churches. Rich agreed to contact folks at the Baptist and Congregational churches in town. Laurence agreed to contact the Christ Church. All were encouraged to make a list of those we know and network through whatever community events we take part in. Names should be sent to Rich to add to a call list that could be split up and called.

Debra agreed to get information to the local events calendars and to send out a PSA. Rich will contact the newspapers: The Bridge, Washington World, and Times Argus. Rich will pass on CVCAC Button-up Flyers. Anne suggested that at least some of the flyers be made 3x5 card sized, so they would better fit on community boards.

Anne also suggested that cards could be placed aside simple home insulation materials at the local hardware stores (Plainfield and E. Mont. Home Center) to advertise the workshop. She would look into this and post flyers. Perhaps, also, these hardware businesses would be willing to offer discounts to folks that had attended a workshop.

Further note: Community Action's program has expanded its income guidelines to cover more households. This information, along with information about the new state and federal tax incentives which help to cover more of the costs of the improvements, needs to be further disseminated both prior to and at the workshop.

Next meeting: October 12, 6:30, OSC.

Meeting adjourned approximately 7:40 pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Saul Gresser