

## BRANFORD CLEAN ENERGY TASK FORCE

Minutes of Meeting October 16, 2007  
(Submitted November 1, 2007)

The Clean Energy Task Force (CETF) met on October 16, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. at Canoe Brook Senior Center. Chris Sullivan, Lindsay Mathews, Charlie Shelton, Shirley McCarthy, Richard Sullivan, Mike Hughes, John Smith and Jonathan Katz attended. Mark Deming could not attend.

The minutes of the September meeting were approved.

John Smith confirmed that Branford has made a municipal purchase of clean energy from Sterling Planet by submitting the Express Enrollment form on October 4, 2007 to switch the meter at Academy House on the Green to Sterling Planet. This meter records that Academy consumes about 16 megawatts (16,000 kilowatt hours) of electricity per year. John projected about a \$600 increase in the bill for this meter; Jonathan thought that was too high in that the surcharge would be 1.15 cents per kilowatt or \$184 per year.

John has been attempting to get a date for a site inspection for solar panel sites from Bob Wall. Scheduled dates were cancelled by the inspector at the last minute. John will press them for inspection dates.

The Task Force has a \$5,000 grant to promote clean power to individual households in Branford, and needs to design a Request for Proposals to award the grant money. Chris Sullivan, Mike Hughes and Dick Sullivan were **appointed** as a subcommittee to design an RFP form for submission of grant proposals.

The Task Force considered new information concerning potential alternative pricing models from Community Energy. After discussion of the pricing models and incentives for individual signups offered by the two companies, the Task Force **voted** to confirm its prior decision to endorse Sterling Planet as the Clean Energy Option company to be recommended to Branford homeowners.

The Task Force discussed potential installation of a methane gas capture and power generation system at the Branford Landfill. The consensus was that the idea merited further investigation and study.

It was noted that Mike Hughes' appointment to the Task Force needed to be confirmed by the Board of Selectmen and that this has not yet happened. Mike will continue to serve as an adjunct member pending confirmation.

The Task Force noted that Lindsay Mathews and Jonathan Katz had done an interview concerning the work of the Task Force with Stephanie Farber at BCTV, which is scheduled to air several times on Channel 18.

The Task Force noted that the proposed budget for making a 20% purchase of clean energy during fiscal year 2008-2009 needed to be revised to take into account the contribution of the state mandated Renewable Energy Portfolio, which is set at 5% for 2008. Jonathan agreed to revise and resubmit the proposed draft budget for consideration at the planned meeting on November 13. The budget needs to be submitted to the General Government Buildings management for the town, and to the Board of Selectmen.

Mike Hughes updated the Task Force on the status of the website, and noted that Sterling Planet can accept individual signups on line and that these can be linked from the [www.branfordcleanenergy.com](http://www.branfordcleanenergy.com) website. Jonathan agreed to draft a block of text describing this process for inclusion on the website, and possibly on the [www.branford-ct.gov](http://www.branford-ct.gov) website.

The Task Force also decided to draft a second letter for potential submission to the RTM encouraging individual members to sign up for the Clean Energy Options Program.

It was noted that the next meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on November 13, 2007 at Canoe Brook, to avoid conflict with Election Day.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Katz, Secretary

## BRANFORD CLEAN ENERGY TASK FORCE

Minutes of Meeting November 20, 2007  
(Submitted December 4, 2007)

The Clean Energy Task Force (CETF) met on November 20, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. at Canoe Brook Senior Center. Chris Sullivan, Lindsay Mathews, Charlie Shelton, Shirley McCarthy, Richard Sullivan, Mike Hughes, John Smith and Jonathan Katz attended. Mark Deming could not attend. Others in attendance were Tom Cleveland and David Simon.

The minutes of the October meeting were approved.

David Simon addressed the Task Force. He is employed by Aegis Solar, a Branford solar power installer with experience installing self-contained solar systems in the Thimble Islands. He wanted to build a temporary solar installation to power the town Christmas tree on the Green, with a kiosk advertising his company and the CEO program. After discussion it was determined that it was too late to get this done for 2007, but that the idea should be reconsidered for holiday season 2008. The Committee **resolved** to recommend this project to the Town. David indicated he is a resource for the Committee and that he would bid on the solar panel installation for Branford, and possibly supply one donated kilowatt of solar cells if his company gets the contract.

The Task Force accepted the resignation of Chris Sullivan as chairman and as a member of the Task Force, as Chris has been elected to the RTM. The panel commended Sully for his good work chairing this Task Force.

After discussion Lindsay Mathews and Jonathan Katz were elected as co-chairs of the Task Force. Jonathan agreed to continue to provide minutes for the meetings.

Tom Cleveland volunteered to serve on the Task Force in lieu of Chris, and became a member of the Task Force, subject to being appointed by the Town and filing the conflict of interest declaration.

Lindsay reported on the status of our solar installation. The town now has 345 signups for the CEO program. Lindsay reported that the engineer Bob Wassung had inspected the proposed sites for our panels and owes us a report and recommendations.

The Task Force decided to take the following actions:

1. The proposal to purchase 15% of municipal electric power requirements from Sterling Planet is to be submitted to the Board of Selectmen in December. In this

context Jonathan told the Task Force that the CEO program is being reviewed by Department of Public Utilities Control and may have revisions between now and the start of the new fiscal year, July 1, 2008.

2. We are to focus our efforts on completing the Request for Proposals to spend the grant money to obtain additional signups for the CEO program.
3. We are to investigate the most useful techniques for signing up participants in these programs.

Our next meeting is Tuesday, December 4 at 7:00 p.m. at Canoe Brook.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Katz, Co-chair

## **BRANFORD CLEAN ENERGY TASK FORCE**

Minutes of Meeting December 4, 2007  
(Submitted January 6, 2008)

The Clean Energy Task Force (CETF) met on December 4, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. at Canoe Brook Senior Center. Committee members Lindsay Mathews, Charlie Shelton, Shirley McCarthy, Richard Sullivan, John Smith and Jonathan Katz attended. Marcia Wellman, Regulatory Affairs Manager for United Illuminating, also attended.

The minutes of the November meeting were approved. It was noted that the total number of signups for the Branford Clean Energy Options program was now 358, as opposed to the 345 reflected in the November Minutes.

The calendar of meetings for 2008 was approved. The calendar is:

7:00 pm on the first Tuesday of the month at Canoe Brook. January 8, 2008 [January 1 is a Tuesday so we skip one week], Feb. 5, Mar. 4, Apr. 1, May 6, June 3, July 1, Aug 5, Sept 2, Oct 7, Nov. 11 [Tuesday Nov 4 is Election Day, no meeting—Veterans Day is a Monday holiday], Dec. 2.

Lindsay noted that Tom Cleveland had accepted a job offer in New York and would not be able to serve on the Task Force at this time.

The Task Force considered the issue of whether we needed to approach the Branford Board of Education before submitting the proposed budget for power purchase from Sterling Planet to the Board of Selectmen. After discussion it was decided to present the budget to the Selectmen at their meeting scheduled for December 5, 2007. Lindsay and Jonathan would make the presentation.

Lindsay reported on the number of CEO signups in other towns, as a percentage of households. Figures included Cornwall, 19%; Guilford, 2.9%; Cheshire 2.6%; Fairfield, 2.8%; New Haven 2.0%; West Hartford, 3.9%. East Haven does not have a Task Force, but has 48 enrollments in the CEO program.

There was some discussion of pending changes to the CEO program as a result of the open docket at the Department of Public Utilities Control. The program is likely to be renewed. There will be changes, probably involving the marketing of alternative electricity in Connecticut, possibly involving the program subsidies for towns. This is an open question.

Marcia Wellman provided general information to the effect that state funding is available for a number of energy audit and usage reduction programs in addition to our CEO program. Among others, funding is available to subsidize

the cost of purchasing energy efficient vehicles for municipal fleets. Branford is working on acquisition of some hybrid vehicles through this program. It is an open question, for investigation, the extent to which Branford is taking advantage of all of the available programs.

The Task Force discussed the status of the use of the \$5000 grant we have received to publicize the CEO program. We do not have an application program in place, although a couple of prototypes exist. Both Task Force members who were trained to administer the grant have left the Task Force. This issue will receive further attention at our January meeting, scheduled for January 8, 2008.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Katz, Co-chair

## **BRANFORD CLEAN ENERGY TASK FORCE**

Minutes of Meeting January 8, 2008  
(Submitted January 9, 2008)

The Clean Energy Task Force (CETF) met on January 8, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at Canoe Brook Senior Center. Committee members Lindsay Mathews, Charlie Shelton, Shirley McCarthy, Richard Sullivan, and Jonathan Katz attended. Mike Hughes, John Smith and Mark Deming were absent. Marcia Wellman also attended, as an interested citizen, not a Task Force member.

Lindsay Mathews, co-chair, presided. The minutes of the December meeting were approved, subject to correction of typographical errors.

The Task Force discussed its current membership. It was noted that John Smith has left employment with Branford and will likely need to be replaced though he has not submitted a formal resignation. Robert Feretti of the Yale Sustainability Office is a candidate but could not attend the January meeting. It was noted that Mark Deming normally does not attend meetings though he runs the Board of Ed buildings, is involved with the tri-generation project, and may host a solar cell system if we put it on a school building. A Task Force member will contact him concerning his plans to remain active on the Task Force. We are not required to have a Board of Education member. Janice Plaziak is now eligible to serve again on the Task Force but may not be available.

The Task Force discussed the status of the Board of Selectmen's decision to fund a 20% purchase from Sterling Planet. Lindsay will stay in contact with Jim Finch concerning this. Lindsay and Jonathan will make any necessary presentations to the Board of Finance or the RTM. Assuming the funds are in the budget for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2008 we will have to come up with a plan to implement the decision so that Sterling will become a 20% supplier as of that date. This may involve an advance determination to choose the Clean Energy Option for city meters totaling 20% of our usage, so that the new billing is effective as of July 1. This would probably require about 2 months notice to CL&P and Sterling.

Marcia Wellman reported on the status of the DPUC docket for revising the CEO program. She said it was more likely than not that the program would continue without major changes, and that the subsidies paid by Sterling would not change. Apparently this is supposed to go to decision in April, 2008.

Lindsay reported on the status of our grant applications for micro-grants from the \$5,000 we have received. She has drafted a letter to the newspaper and prepared a mailing for local civic groups. The Task Force reviewed the

language of the mailing, making some changes. An initial deadline of May 1, 2008 was set for applications. The grant application is available online. Lindsay will get these printed, with envelopes, and notify Task Force members when they can be picked up, to be stuffed and mailed.

The Task Force discussed other energy initiatives we can explore, and we need to contact our municipal CL&P rep, and arrange to have their Conservation and Load Management spokesperson address us at our March meeting. It was noted that there are grants and tax credits available for other conservation projects, including potentially a project at the wastewater treatment plant. It was also noted that the high school tri-generation plant will be able to sell Renewable Energy Certificates, and the revenue from these sales would go to Branford.

Concerning the solar cell installation, the engineering report for our 5 potential solar sites has been completed by the engineer Bob Wassung and is pending review with Bob Wall of Connecticut Clean Energy Fund. He is expected to release it within days. Of the 5 sites, only Canoe Brook does not qualify because it is screened by trees. The others qualify. Lindsay will distribute the report to the Task Force, and we will discuss the matter by email, choose a site, and communicate the choice to Bob Wall. He will send it out for bids. We will need to hold an "open house" so that potential bidders can inspect the site. Bob Wall's people will choose a successful bidder, who will then install the solar cell systems. Installation must be coordinated with and accepted by the Town Engineer, Clean Energy Fund, and CL&P before it can be turned on.

The Task Force discussed possibly having Techni-Art do a lighting sales fair, perhaps in conjunction with the Branford Festival on Fathers Day, 2008. They apparently prefer to do stand-alone presentations. They sell discounted compact fluorescent lighting and similar energy saving devices. Their web address is [www.techniart.com](http://www.techniart.com) .

Jonathan noted he will not be able to attend the February 5 meeting. Shirley McCarthy agreed to take notes and write minutes. Lindsay will chair.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Katz, Co-chair

## **BRANFORD CLEAN ENERGY TASK FORCE**

Minutes of Meeting February 12, 2008  
(Submitted March 2, 2008)

The Clean Energy Task Force (CETF) met on February 12, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at Canoe Brook Senior Center. Committee members Lindsay Mathews, Charlie Shelton, Shirley McCarthy, Richard Sullivan, Mike Hughes, Bob Ferretti and Jonathan Katz attended. Mark Deming was absent.

Jonathan Katz, co-chair, presided. The minutes of the January meeting were approved.

Lindsay reported on signups for participation in the Clean Energy Options program, as follows:

Total signups 368

239 at 100% and 21 at 50% were signed up with Community Energy  
85 at 100% and 15 at 50% were signed up with Sterling Planet

The Board of Selectman issued a letter approving Mike Hughes as a Task Force member and a letter approving Bob Ferretti is expected.

The Task Force considered the engineering recommendations concerning installation of solar panels on the five buildings evaluated by Bob Wassung. The Task Force voted to install the panels on the roof of Branford High School, subject to approval of the appropriate school officials or Board of Education. Jonathan was asked to contact Mark Deming concerning Board of Ed approval.

The Task Force needs an accounting of the \$5,000 in grant money received from the State clean energy program.

Lindsay had prepared fliers advertising the grant program, and envelopes. A mailing list was divided among Task Force members and supplies issued to send out the grant advertisements. These were to be sent by February 14. Postage is available at Town Hall.

The Task Force discussed Hamden's participation in the ICLEI Cities for Climate Protection Campaign, which produced a detailed report ("Local Action Plan") for Hamden in 2004. The question was raised whether Branford can get a similar report, and what other kinds of energy efficiencies Branford can participate in. Possible resources for the Town to consider are the United States Green Building Council criteria, and the Connecticut Council of Municipalities Climate

Protection Agreement. It was noted that Bridgeport has made a commitment to become carbon-neutral, and has installed 15 geothermal wells to reduce carbon consumption for heating and cooling.

Bob noted that Gateway offers a “Home Energy Saver” course designed to help homeowners reduce energy consumption and energy costs, at the Smart Living Center in Orange. The tuition is modest and the free products distributed at the course recoup the costs.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Katz, co-chair

## **BRANFORD CLEAN ENERGY TASK FORCE**

Minutes of Meeting March 4, 2008  
(Submitted May 3, 2008)

The Clean Energy Task Force (CETF) met on March 4, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at Canoe Brook Senior Center. Committee members Lindsay Mathews, Richard Sullivan, Mike Hughes, Bob Ferretti and Jonathan Katz attended. The remaining members were absent.

Lindsay Mathews, co-chair, presided. The minutes of the February meeting were approved.

Lindsay reported that there was some likelihood that Sterling Planet would raise its rates as a result of modifications in the CEO program. The program is undergoing review and restructuring and the impact on pricing is uncertain at this time.

Lindsay also advised that we would now be receiving monthly financial reports concerning Task Force expenditures and funds on deposit. Currently we had an unencumbered balance of \$4,638. The Task Force approved \$30 reimbursement to Lindsay for paper purchases for the grant mailing.

Grant applications were mailed out in February. We have not received any completed grant applications to date.

We discuss possible tactics to invigorate the grant program, including advertisement in Shore Line Times, possibly obtaining and contacting or publishing a list of people who have signed up for the program, and approaching Toyota to see if they would donate a Prius to be offered as a prize in a contest to advance clean energy.

It was noted that the Selectman's budget proposal for fiscal year commencing 7/1/08 should contain \$23,000 to fund purchase of clean energy for the Town. Dick was going to check on the status of this item so we can fulfill our commitment to the program. Branford does not have an official "Energy Manager." Two thirds of the town's energy purchases go to Board of Education where it is managed, in part, by Mark Deming.

Total signups of private citizens in Branford for the CEO program are 363, which is down from 368. This was discussed, and apparently other towns are experiencing a drop in membership. This may be caused by: people moving and canceling their power contracts; increases in energy prices and cost of living; and uncertainty about renewal of the program and pricing to be offered.

Branford is to receive an award from the Clean Energy Fund for successful participation in the program. A luncheon is scheduled on March 18 from 11 to 2 p.m. at the Lawn Club in New Haven. We are invited to send representatives. Lindsay, Jonathan, Mike and Dick expressed interest and were to confirm availability to attend.

The Task Force discussed joining ICLEI—International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives. The cost is \$600 and for this the town will get a software package and guidance to do a total energy audit of all governmental sources of CO2 emissions, and develop a local action plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions with targets and time lines. Lindsay is going to coordinate this with the Conservation Commission. It was noted that the state is a proponent of cap-and-trade legislation, and that Branford is now selling nitrogen credits.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Katz, co-chair

## **BRANFORD CLEAN ENERGY TASK FORCE**

Minutes of Meeting April 15, 2008

- present: Robert Ferretti, Lindsay Mathews, Shirley McCarthy, Charles Shelton, Richard Sullivan
- # of enrollments: 368 last month, 358 this month; talk to Bob Wall/CCEF regarding thoughts on decrease
- No grant applications; call people that you sent brochures: see if you can encourage them or clarify process
- financial statement review: balance is \$4,677
- draft letter to editor from Jonathon and Lindsay will be emailed
- Branford festival: CETF will be with Conservation, will have a solar panel and Dick Sullivan will check into delivery of it
- Lindsay will invite 2 solar panel companies to be at our booth at the Branford Festival
- Solar installation: installers are supposed to come this week to BHS. Bob Wall and Mark Deming have been contacted
- CETF luncheon: Dick Sullivan said it was good and well attended
- PCOD drafting for vision project. Dick will bring it to the committee
- Mike Hughes: by end of summer, there will be an estimate Branford's greenhouse gases

## **BRANFORD CLEAN ENERGY TASK FORCE**

Minutes of Meeting May 6, 2008  
(Submitted June 2, 2008)

The Clean Energy Task Force (CETF) met on May 6, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at Canoe Brook Senior Center. Committee members Lindsay Mathews, Shirley McCarthy, Charlie Shelton, Bob Ferretti and Jonathan Katz attended. The remaining members were absent.

Lindsay Mathews, co-chair, presided. The minutes of the March 4 and April 15 meetings were approved.

Lindsay reported, on a number of matters, pursuant to conversations with Bob Wall, which were discussed:

Town enrollments are down generally, it is a trend many towns are experiencing. Reasons include uncertainty about future pricing in the program, increased energy costs including fuel, and people moving and canceling their electricity contracts. Organizations that have stakes in the program are meeting to plan its future, in view of pending changes at the state level.

The town budget for clean electricity purchases is in-process; the 7/1/08 budget has not been approved yet.

Our solar installation is waiting for a site visit from potential installers. We are advised that the state program is making revisions to bid documents and we may not get a site visit till after documents are revised.

Our mailing about grants has not produced any positive responses, although one PTO group expressed interest and we will follow up on that.

The Committee decided to offer Bogolight solar powered flashlights to people who sign up for the CEO program at the Branford Festival. The flashlights are about \$14 each and are available in bulk from [www.bogolight.com](http://www.bogolight.com). Jonathan Katz committed to purchase the unused portion for corporate gifts; the Task Force decided to purchase one box of 50 units.

Shirley McCarthy expressed interest in a program to evaluate streetlights in Branford to determine whether the town is being charged for streetlights that are not in service. A question was raised as to whether this project is within the Task Force mandate and the issue will be discussed again at a later meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Katz, co-chair

## **BRANFORD CLEAN ENERGY TASK FORCE**

Minutes of Meeting June 3, 2008  
(Submitted June 29, 2008)

The Clean Energy Task Force (CETF) met on June 3, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at Canoe Brook Senior Center. Committee members Lindsay Mathews, Shirley McCarthy, Bob Ferretti, Mike Hughes and Jonathan Katz attended. The remaining members were absent.

Lindsay Mathews, co-chair, presided. Discussion of the minutes of the May 6 meeting was deferred till the next meeting.

Lindsay reported that enrollments were 347.5, or 2.8% of households in Branford.

The status of the grant application program was discussed. Shirley telephoned the organizations she had sent them to, was asked to re-send to one person who didn't remember getting it. Mike said the Career Community Service Center may have some interest in the fall. Janet Lewis at the Walsh school may have some interest.

The Senior Center is looking for a speaker for a program on saving energy and saving money, scheduled for September 9 at 11:00 am.  
\_\_\_\_\_volunteered.

We discussed the Branford Festival scheduled for June 14 and the planned giveaway of solar powered flashlights. Sterling Planet has now confirmed that they will participate in the revised program and that there will be no changes in their pricing to households through the end of 2008. Thus we can sign people up for the existing program. Separately, Sterling advised Jonathan that they are not currently rebating 20% of energy purchases to the town. That was last year's incentive. Branford is eligible for this year's incentive, that has not been announced yet but is in process.

The installation of solar panels is currently delayed because the Clean Energy Fund is revising its process. Details should be announced in a matter of weeks, but will be more restrictive. Branford should qualify under the more restrictive criteria because we have qualified for 7 KW of cells.

Branford has joined International Coalition for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) and has obtained software necessary to do a comprehensive greenhouse gas audit. This is necessary so the town can design a reduction target. We have to know what CO2 we are generating now, to have a baseline to measure progress. Mike is working on this.

We discussed that it is important to have a dialogue among the Vision Project, Planning & Zoning, Conservation & Economic Development and the Conservation Commission to make sure greenhouse gas reduction is given consideration when the town does its planning. We need to get all the commissions having jurisdiction on the same page.

Bob Crelin did a utility pole survey in 2003. Branford has 2100 streetlights and up to 90% could operate effectively with reduced wattage. This is accomplished by changing bulbs, and there is a cost to do it during the middle of a bulb's designed life cycle. His survey looked for phantom bulbs—where the utility was charging for lights not in operation—but very few were found.

Apparently Unk Daros has indicated he is in favor of establishing a Community Forest Commission to foster tree planting, and the creation of a community forest.

Next month we are supposed to hear from a representative of Apricus. They make solar hot water heaters and “solar collectors.” [www.apricus.com](http://www.apricus.com)

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Katz, co-chair

## **BRANFORD CLEAN ENERGY TASK FORCE**

Minutes of Meeting July 1, 2008  
(Submitted July 5, 2008)

The Clean Energy Task Force (CETF) met on July 1, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at Canoe Brook Senior Center. Committee members Charlie Shelton, Bob Ferretti, Mike Hughes and Jonathan Katz attended. The remaining members were absent.

Jonathan Katz, co-chair, presided. Discussion of the minutes of the May 6 and June 3 meetings was deferred till the next meeting due to lack of quorum. We held a working session.

We brainstormed possible community events to set up our signup table—two possibilities were the Branstock festival in September and Hotchkiss Grove day. A third possibility is at Short Beach Days, around Labor Day. We recommend continuing the solar flashlight promotion—clearly indicating sign-up is required.

We noted signup of approximately 50 new members at the Branford Festival, including those signed up by Community Energy. Community apparently has up to 70% of the signups in Branford; they want to talk to us about switching our allegiance. We should revisit this issue.

Mike Hughes is overseeing the switching of meters to Clean Energy Options offered by Sterling. He has identified 12 meters totaling about 16.23 percent of Branford electricity usage which have been identified to Sterling for switchover. Some of these have already been confirmed. The rest should be in place by early July, with billings after June 30, 2008 reflecting the surcharge. Meters are allocated roughly 43% to Board of Education and 57% to general Town purchases. Jim Finch and Mark Deming have authorized the switchovers on behalf of the Town and the Board of Education.

We questioned whether the Town can take credit for the 5% of clean power from the Renewables Portfolio Standard because we purchase our power from Transcanada, rather than CL&P supplies. We need to investigate this further to determine whether we have actually met our 20% by 2010 target.

We went through a brief assessment of pricing. The anticipated cost of switching 1,931 MWH of power to the CEO program is 1.15 cents per KW, or \$11.50 per MW, or  $(1,931 \times \$11.50) = \$22,206$ . This is the gross cost. It is offset and reduced by:

a. Incentives returned by Sterling to the town for residential signups:

roughly 400 signups x 30% with Sterling = 120 x \$15 per signup per year equals \$1,800

b. Application of Sterling's municipal incentive for 2008, which has not been determined yet. We need to follow up on this.

c. Offset from solar power generated by 7KW (or 8KW, or 9KW if we qualify) of solar cells to be installed on the High School. We have no accurate estimate for this and Mike is going to try to generate one.

NOTE from JK: We do NOT include the offset value of the capital cost of the free systems. We get the panels for free and they are expensive—it would be also useful to get a capital cost for this system.

Per Bob Wall Branford is #1 on the list for installation of solar panels and we should have them up and running by the end of the summer. We need to stay on top of this, make sure we press them to get this done.

Mike is going to draft a press release announcing Branford's progress toward meeting the 20% by 2010 goal.

Nobody has applied for any grants from our grant money.

We may owe the Land Trust reimbursement for Branford Festival costs in 2008 and if so we should get this paid.

The next meeting is scheduled for August 5 at 7:00 at Canoe Brook. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Katz, co-chair

## **BRANFORD CLEAN ENERGY TASK FORCE**

Minutes of Meeting August 5, 2008  
(Submitted August 5, 2008)

The Clean Energy Task Force (CETF) met on August 5, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at Canoe Brook Senior Center. Committee members Lindsay Mathews, Shirley McCarthy, Dick Sullivan, Mike Hughes and Jonathan Katz attended. The remaining members were absent.

Jonathan Katz, co-chair, presided. Discussion of the minutes of the July 1 meeting was deferred till the next meeting.

Dick noted that the town had adopted a Vision Statement, and provided a copy for inspection. It is important and needs further review by us.

According to the ctinnovations.com website, we have 550.5 members, not counting those who signed up at the Branford Festival. We decided to seek

permission to do a membership drive at Short Beach Days, on Saturday of Labor Day Weekend. Shirley and Jonathan will try to set this up. If they let us, we will offer the remaining solar flashlights as incentives for new sign ups. This should get us well over 400 and qualify us for an additional 2KW of solar panels. We will be able to qualify under the current program till November 1, when 20% by 2010 3.0 goes into effect.

We owe the about \$120 for booth rental at the Branford Festival. We have not been able to generate the paperwork necessary to satisfy the Town to pay this from our grant money. No other claims have been made against the grant money and we have no applications. Mike Hughes says he may apply for a grant, we decided to consider his application.

Solar installers are scheduled to inspect the High School during the week of August 18. Thereafter they can file proposals to do the installation. There is no hard timetable for getting the panels installed.

We discussed how to spend our appropriation for clean energy in fiscal 2008. CL&P cannot bill us for the Sterling Planet surcharge because the town buys power from TransCanada. This may be a computer glitch and is not scheduled to be resolved till October at the earliest. We decided to explore direct billing by Sterling based on total usage of 12,000 MW last year. We may look to split this purchase between Sterling and Community, since Community has 70% of the town's residential customers. In this way we can purchase Renewable Energy Certificates equal to 15% of the town's power purchases. The remaining 5% comes from the Renewable Portfolio Standard. This is applicable to TransCanada because they are licensed to sell power in Connecticut.

The power pole project is pending. We were advised that CL&P is resisting towns switching to half-night power option for streetlights.

Mike is working on the greenhouse gas inventory for Branford, using the ICLEI software. He hopes to have it completed in the near future. Then the next steps are to set a reduction target and design a plan to implement it.

Jonathan will report to the Board of Selectmen tomorrow night at 6:00 p.m. All Task Force ,members are invited to attend.

The next meeting is scheduled for September 2 at 7:00 at Canoe Brook.

There being no further business we adjourned to the September meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Katz, co-chair

## **BRANFORD CLEAN ENERGY TASK FORCE**

Minutes of Meeting September 2, 2008  
(Submitted December 1, 2008)

The Clean Energy Task Force (CETF) met on September 2, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at Canoe Brook Senior Center. Committee members Lindsay Mathews, Shirley McCarthy, Bob Ferretti, Charlie Shelton Mike Hughes and Jonathan Katz attended. All others were absent.

Lindsay Mathews, co-chair, presided. Minutes of all prior meetings were approved.

According to the ctinnovations.com website, we have 352.5 members, not including three members signed up at Short Beach Days. This number also does not include members signed up at the Branford Festival.

It was noted we had disbursed \$100 to the Land Trust to reimburse for costs they advanced for us at the Branford Festival.

Mark Deming reported that the solar cell contractors inspected the High School on August 22, preparatory to submitting bids to install our PV system.

We discussed questions about current enrollments and incentives offered by Sterling and Community. Mike Hughes stated he would inquire.

We discussed the retail value of 8 kilowatts of solar energy per year. The consensus estimate was about \$2000.

We are short one member to make up a compliment of 9 per the CETF resolution. The names of Rick Ross and Tom Cleveland were mentioned as possibilities to fill the vacancy.

We discussed staffing a booth at the Land Trust Picnic in an effort to sign up new members. This is scheduled for September 13 at Young's Pond. Additional discussion focused on how to sign up new members in this difficult economic environment.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Katz, co-chair

## **BRANFORD CLEAN ENERGY TASK FORCE**

Minutes of Meeting November 18, 2008  
(Submitted December 1 2008)

The Clean Energy Task Force (CETF) met on November 18, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at Canoe Brook Senior Center. Committee members Lindsay Mathews, Shirley McCarthy, Bob Ferretti, Mike Hughes, Charlie Shelton and Jonathan Katz attended. The remaining members were absent. Tom Cleveland the younger also attended. Lindsay Mathews presided.

Minutes of the meeting of September 2 are overdue from Jonathan. Minutes of the October meeting will have to be done by someone else as Jonathan did not attend.

The following schedule has been adopted and approved by Canoe Brook for meetings in 2009, all on Tuesday at 7:00 unless otherwise noted:

January 6; Monday, Feb. 2; Mar. 3; Wednesday Apr. 8; May 5; June 2, July 7; no August meeting; Sept 8; Oct 6; Monday Nov. 2; Dec. 1.

We have 357.5 members, up from 352.5. We are still waiting for the members signed up at the Branford Festival to be enrolled.

We received \$150 on Marcy 28, 2008 from Sterling for ten 2007 signups. This number is probably correct. This money has been deposited in the CETF fund, which currently has a balance of \$3,820.74.

Per Mark Garrett we will qualify for a one time customer payment of \$10 per customer from Community if we enroll a meter. After discussion it was decided to enroll 12% of the Town's meters with Sterling and 1% with Community. The remaining 7% to reach the 20% goal will come from the Renewable Portfolio Standard.

Mike Hughes reported that CL&P has now resolved its billing problem for customers who purchase from TransCanada, and he will enroll our meters and the Town will be billed monthly like residential customers are billed.

PV Squared, our solar installer, reported that the high school roof passed inspection and is strong enough for installation of solar panels. They have applied for an electric connection permit. Installation has been postponed till January, 2009. Lindsay is planning a ribbon cutting ceremony for April 22, 2008, Wednesday, Earth Day.

We discussed having a membership drive as part of a solar energy fair, or possibly at Zane's during their annual sale.

Lindsay distributed CD's of the recent Bob Wall interview to area towns.

Frank and Paula Panzarella and Robin Ladda spoke on behalf of their grassroots organization Fight the Hike. They were seeking support for their resolution to re-regulate the electric power companies; lower rates for elderly, poor and people on fixed incomes; and generate renewable power. They stated their resolution had passed in New Haven, Milford, West Haven, North Haven and Hamden. After discussion it was voted to endorse their resolution for presentation to the Branford RTM.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Katz, co-chair