



TEEC
Temple Eco Energy Committee

QUARTERLY REPORT
TO
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

From: Town of Temple, NH #177487
Date: March 3, 2010

Each project listed in the RFP grant application for Temple's Energy Efficiency Program for 2009/2010 has been initiated with the exception of the Carbon Challenge. It will be kicked off at the celebration of the completion of the retrofitting project for the town library.

I. The eco-educational website, www.teec.info, has been up and running for several months. It is a lively, informative website which is updated weekly by a member of Temple's Energy Committee. It includes climate/environmental news updates along with news from the energy committee's activities and events, information on RGGI, pages of energy-saving tips and weatherization measures, a video on climate change with recommended steps to combat it, and will be covering news from the new Recycling Club at Temple's Elementary School following its start up March 3. It has surprised us by literally being viewed by thousands of people from all over the world.

II. The educational outreach program held three successful events during the fall.

1) Along with providing our yearly outdoor eco-educational booth on the Village Green during Temple's Annual Harvest Festival, we also obtained the use of the entire Town Hall for a Special Exhibit during the festival, entitled "Energizing Temple". We filled the hall with huge displays including the following: What the RGGI Grant Will Provide; How RGGI works; Cap and Invest; Climate Change in the Northeast; TEEC's activities from 2007-2009: a live display of a solar panel, wind monitor, and CFLs at work: a self-repeating 20 minute video put to music on climate change in NH and steps folks can take to confront it, created by one of our committee members; a kids booth with their drawings of Earth and a live presentation on recycling for kids; and hand-outs galore with energy saving tips and weatherization information. We also offered three half-hour showings of a filmed weatherization workshop for residents. It was extraordinarily well attended and enjoyed.

2) Our second educational outreach event of the fall was also held in the Town Hall. We called it a "350 Balloon Bash". We provided a table filled with hand-out materials and a tri-fold display illustrating the need to reduce CO2 emissions world-wide from 385 parts per million in the atmosphere back down to 350 ppm--the safe level for human life. We blew up 350 colorful, recyclable balloons and invited residents and kids to come play with them along with learning about the potential consequences of this extreme level of CO2 in the atmosphere. Then we popped the balloons and recycled the remnants. We had invited a local reporter who photographed and reported on our event for the Monadnock Ledger-Transcript to help raise the public's awareness of this critical issue and heighten their concern for reducing GHG emissions. We also included photos and an article in our "News" section of TEEC's website.

3) The third outreach event we held was a "Neighbors Helping Neighbors" gathering in mid-November. It was an informative and productive meeting for residents to learn about the NH Climate Action Plan and to brain storm, discuss, and eventually prioritize action items from the Plan that residents deemed most valuable for our region. There was enthusiastic participation in the discussion and considerable movement along the learning curve regarding the need, viability and assessment of potential public support for the various action items. The participants learned that their opinions would be sent to the Cool Monadnock program for inclusion in a regional survey, leading to the eventual implementation of selected conservation solutions for the Monadnock Region.

III. Our Weatherization Program for Fuel Assistance Qualified Residents has been underway since late October. Initially, we advertised the program widely—with flyers, media notices and within the social service community so that they could provide referrals. Since November we have served each of the families seeking help. And, with financial support from the Congregational Church of Temple, our committee was able to provide deeper weatherization than the level of last year's Staywarm NH program. We hired a local carpenter to serve two homes which needed more serious weatherization to improve their level of energy efficiency. As a "thank you" to the church and with church funds, we are also offering to provide free weatherization for any of the elderly church members living on fixed incomes. This program is ongoing.

IV. The Recycling Club for Temple's Elementary School was launched on March 3. It began with a PowerPoint presentation created by TEEC's secretary and interactive presentations for each class room by TEEC members. We have been working with the school principal for some time to get this off the ground. With her support, we will be coordinating the club's plastic, cardboard and paper collection along with a project to help the school earn money for the paper they recycle. The students who are club members will be creating their own web page on TEEC's website and funneling information about their activities through that channel as well as through the town newsletter and at town events.

V. The first and second drafts of the Energy Chapter TEEC has prepared for the Master Plan were presented to the Planning Board in November and February respectively. It will be presented to our residents in a public hearing later this spring....date to be confirmed. The board indicated a readiness to adopt the chapter following the public hearing. This project has involved many hours of writing and rewriting, but will hold the vision for energy efficiency for Temple for years to come.

VI. The energy efficiency retrofitting project has been in the works since late October. We created a Building Committee composed of members of TEEC and the Select Board. We have held many planning meetings, sent out invitations to bid to numerous construction companies, interviewed several companies, and selected a construction company, Bruss Construction Co., to manage our project. We then held numerous walk-through site visits with members of their staff; held meetings with them and Margaret Dillon, our energy auditor; and we received a detailed scope of work from the construction company. Bruss held many follow through meetings to get the final contract negotiated properly. Eventually, after almost three months of negotiations, we learned that Bruss was not able to be fully bonded for the amount of the retrofit, as was noted in our original invitation to bid and is required by state statute. For this reason, we had to look for another construction company.

We have since chosen Ingram Construction Company, with Coldham & Hartman Architects to be overseers of the construction. Tom Hartman will devote extensive time to the project. He and his company are well-credentialed in building science and energy efficiency retrofitting. Mr. Hartman and Steve Ingram, construction manager, held a lengthy site visit walk-through during the last week of February and will be meeting March 4th with Margaret Dillon and our Building Committee for the next stage of planning. The contracts have been agreed to by both companies for this work. They anticipate that work will begin in two or three weeks and take 8 to 10 weeks to complete.

Submitted by Beverly Edwards, TEEC chairperson