



TEEC
Temple Eco Energy Committee

2nd QUARTERLY REPORT

TO

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

**From: Temple, NH
Date: May 31, 2010**

The Temple Energy Committee is very pleased to report that one of the projects in our Climate Protection and Energy Reduction Initiative has been successfully completed. The Public Hearing for the Energy Chapter of Temple's Master Plan was held on May 5. It became a significant event for the town when the Planning Board voted to adopt the Chapter into the town's Master Plan at the conclusion of the hearing. The Energy Chapter will now hold the vision for Temple, serving to guide our town's decisions, development, and actions toward reducing greenhouse gas emissions and saving energy well into the future.

We are actively engaged in all of the other projects of our Initiative, with the exception of the Carbon Challenge. The CC will be launched at the conclusion of the retrofitting project. We will hold an event designed to celebrate the completion of the work and to highlight the critical importance and benefits to residents of taking the next step in saving energy and reducing greenhouse gas emissions right at home—taking the Carbon Challenge.

Weatherization Program

1. The Temple Energy Committee is still in the process of providing weatherization for the homes of families who are receiving fuel assistance in town. Posters reading "Free Weatherization for Homes of Fuel-Assistance Qualified Residents" are still up throughout the town. Notices of our weatherization program have been placed in Temple's Newsletter, on the local church bulletin board, in local newspapers, and on our TEEC website, www.teec.info. We established a connection with the Southern NH Services office in Peterborough where Temple residents apply for fuel assistance, so that our residents who go to apply are informed of our program and given the contact information to ask for our committee's help. We are still encouraging residents to take advantage of our help throughout the warmer months or to do their own weatherization (for those who can afford it) to reduce their need for air conditioning and prepare for next winter. The local Congregational Church of Temple gave our committee a donation of \$2,000 to help us take a further step. It has enabled us to pay for extra supplies and to hire a carpenter to perform deeper weatherization. Several homes have benefited from this so far, and one is in the midst of this process now. It further enabled us to extend the program, offering it to elderly residents on fixed incomes in need of help.

2. Information on weatherization and tips for home and business energy efficiency measures are available as hand-outs at town events and at our Library.

The “News and Links” page on our TEEC website also provides a page of weatherization information and updated news on free weatherization workshops in our region.

3. The powerpoint presentation TEEC gave at our May 5 Public Hearing for the Energy Chapter of Temple’s Master Plan included photos of weatherization and recommendations for energy efficiency measures and weatherization to be an integral part of our town’s ongoing public education program to reduce greenhouse gas emissions locally and help residents save energy.

Educational Program

Our committee has been reaching out to educate our townsfolk as well as the larger NH community in the following ways.

1. We have brought the issues of climate change, environmental protection, energy conservation and the urgent need for energy efficiency measures for all sectors of our communities to the attention of our residents and our region. We have had hundreds of folks attend our various educational events; read our entries in the Temple Newsletter and the Carbon Coalition’s Local Energy Committee’s Newsletter; attend conferences and workshops throughout the state where our committee’s work has been highlighted and our committee members have been invited to share our work and experience: and through the vehicle of our active and informative eco-educational website, www.teec.info . We have also welcomed local newspaper reporters to report on our events and activities in order to draw more attention to the importance of local action and local solutions to the challenges of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and saving energy in our own backyards and throughout the state.
2. Our work to educate and advance the energy/climate change learning curve for our town leaders is ongoing. It has most actively been focused on our work with the Planning Board. But we have also held informational meetings with town committee chairpersons, the municipal staff, the Fire Chief, Library Trustees, librarians, and the members of Temple’s Historical District Commission to educate them about the importance of the upcoming retrofitting work for our municipal buildings as a means of reducing emissions, saving energy, and saving the taxpayer’s money.
3. Our eco-educational website, www.teec.info, continues to provide a strong and enthusiastic voice for environmental protection, conservation and energy efficiency/greenhouse gas reduction for our community and beyond. It is an intensely active website, updated frequently (usually weekly), and has attracted

over 3,500 page views so far. Most site visitors are local or NH residents, but our viewers are from many states and even the global community (Germany, England, France, Spain, Italy, Holland, Norway, Russia, Poland, China, Korea, Australia, Sweden, Brazil, Columbia, Switzerland, etc). The website includes updates on our committee's activities; educational pages on weatherization and conservation measures; articles on the state-wide long term benefits of the NH RGGI program; a "News and Links" section which provides up-to-date articles, youtube presentations, and links to articles on climate change, environmental events, national and state energy conferences, the growth of the renewable industry in NH and on tax incentives and rebates for energy efficiency home and business upgrades. It will soon be adding a Students' Page produced by students at our elementary school--now in process.

4. TEEC has reached out to engage and educate the children of our community by establishing an environmental and recycling club at the Temple Elementary School. It is exciting to see the strong level of interest the students have in learning more about how they can help take care of the earth, including in their environments at home and in school.

5. We have also been educating through modeling--simply "setting an example". Locally and regionally, our energy conservation actions have become visible. We are modeling:

- a) The importance and value of setting up a proactive energy committee.
- b) Thoughtful, reasonable steps that have carved a path or "road map" for other towns and committees to follow....through allowing our process to be presented as a model in large and small workshops and conferences throughout the state and on various non-profit environmental organizations' web sites.
- c) The process of our retrofitting project for our Municipal Building/FD and Library. We are recording the process through photographs and videos, as a learning tool for our citizens and others--from the various stages of the preparation for the work through the actual air sealing, insulation work, installation of an R40 Cool-Vent roof over our Municipal Building (making it the top of the envelope for that building), installation of the energy efficient heating systems, the high efficiency overhead doors for the FD garage, the installation of the high efficiency windows for the buildings, the moisture reduction work, etc. and the blower-door and smoke testing along the way.
- d) The importance of recycling. Our committee continues to provide a recycling service for all large town events. On May 1, we also did all the sorting and recycling for our town-wide Good Roads Day, as we have done since our committee was formed in '07. As a result, more and more of our residents are recycling, making it a habit—they tell us so. We hope that our work with the kids Recycling Club at our elementary school will have the same effect—teach all the kids the importance of recycling by doing it and watching it being done.

6. Our committee created another excellent educational powerpoint which we presented at the May 5, Public Hearing for the Energy Chapter for Temple's Master Plan. It was alive with wonderful pictures and illustrations as well as bulleted points and text. It focused on climate change in NH; the need for protection of our open spaces, forests and farms; the importance of deep energy efficiency work and retrofitting in all sectors; the need to adopt zoning ordinances designed to increase activity and services in our village area, encourage home businesses, create bike and walking paths to reduce automotive usage overall; the need to facilitate green policies throughout the municipal sector; and take actions to enable an increasing number of renewable energy installations for all sectors of our community. It stressed the significance and value of the Chapter as a means of clarifying the vision and guiding the policies and actions of our town to help us establish more stability and sustainability for our community in response to climate change and to reduce green house gas emissions and save energy locally. Our presentation was followed by a very positive and constructive discussion. All in all, it was enthusiastically received and appreciated.

Recycling Club for the Temple Elementary School

Our committee has had to be patient in waiting for the school staff to give us the green light for this program to come to fruition. TEEC has finally been able to get the ball rolling. We had kicked off the program on March 3, as mentioned in the previous quarterly review. Our committee created a totally entertaining, fun and stimulating educational powerpoint presentation, which we treated the students, staff, and teachers of each class room to in a 45 minute, interactive program. For the better part of a day, we went from class to class, using our presentation to stir their hearts and minds and invite rousing discussions with them as we explored many of the ways kids, teachers and families can help to protect our environment, become more energy efficient at school and in their homes, and reduce, reuse, and recycle as much as possible. It was a smashing success. Since then, there have been more delays, due to logistical problems between our local elementary school and the Maintenance Department of the Conval School District regarding how the actual recycling was to be carried out. Fortunately, with dogged determination we have been able to work out the wrinkles. So, even though it is months later than we had hoped, the Recycling Club is off the ground! Our committee purchased large bins for each classroom for their paper collection and smaller containers for their plastic bottles and aluminum cans. Every week, now, the students from the oldest classroom take turns going from class to class, gathering the containers, helping sort the recyclables, taking all of the discarded paper out to the Paper Retriever collection dumpster and bagging the other recyclables for one of our TEEC members to take to the Wilton Recycling Center. We are holding weekly Recycling Club meetings with the kids to discuss environmental and energy saving issues, make posters to put up in town to encourage more residents to recycle, learn about how recyclables get

processed and transformed into other products, etc. As mentioned elsewhere, the principal, students and Energy Committee are also in the process of setting up a “Students Page” for our TEEC web site. On it, the kids want to create a way of reaching out to help educate their families and other kids about climate change, the environment in NH, and what kids and their families can do to help keep the earth and our town healthy and “a safe place to grow up”. The club is off the ground and the kids are looking forward to continuing it next fall!

Energy Chapter for Temple’s Master Plan

Our Committee’s year long work to create an Energy Chapter for Temple’s Master Plan finally came to fruition on May 5. After initially reaching out to Christa Koehler from the Cool Monadnock Program and our energy auditor, Steve Whitman, to help us with the structure and some of the content for an Energy Chapter, our committee worked for a year to create the right one for Temple. We were writing, revising, reorganizing, adding and subtracting material right up to the month of March. Eventually, we had created and presented four separate drafts to the Planning Board over the course of a year, until it met with their approval and truly fit the needs and character of our town. At that point the board agreed that it was ready for a Public Hearing which was held on May 5. As written in the “Education Program” section of this review, our Energy Committee members created and presented an excellent powerpoint to introduce the Energy Chapter to the town, promote its acceptance by our citizenry and add to their learning curve on all the issues it addresses. It was a successful presentation in every way, and at the end of the evening the Planning Board voted to adopt it into the Master Plan. Copies of the recommendations and an outline of the Chapter were handed out to everyone who attended. Copies of the 15 page Energy Chapter are available for the public to read at the Library and Municipal Building as well as on TEEC’s website, www.teec.info.

Deep Energy Retrofitting Project for Temple’s Library, Municipal Building and FD

After three months of preparation with the construction company we selected came to an end when they acknowledged their inability to get a full bond for the retrofitting project (a requirement, spelled out in our initial invitation to bid), we are finally in the last stage of preparation with our second, but top notch, team. Working with Tom Hartman of Coldham/Hartman Architects, as the leader and overseer of the project, Steve Ingram of Ingram Construction Company, as the construction manager, and with Margaret Dillon as an actively involved energy consultant, our retrofitting project is finally in the last stage of preparation. Actual physical work should begin by the second week in June! It has become a much improved scope of work as a result of having so many talented energy efficiency

professionals focused on the project. We have had numerous meetings with our Building Committee, the architect, Margaret Dillon and the construction manager. We have had numerous “walk throughs” with various subcontractors, even up to last week. And we have been focused on the many decisions and adjustments we needed to make after getting the bids and prices in from the subcontractors two weeks ago. But we are close--just waiting for adjusted bids on the heating installation for the Municipal Building and the roofers adjusted bids, following the addition of some details added to the scope for the Municipal Building’s roof. Our contract signing meeting, with everything hammered out, is expected to be sometime in the first week of June.

The Carbon Challenge

This program will be launched at the celebration for the completion of the energy efficiency retrofitting project for our municipal buildings, as mentioned above. We are now in the planning stages for the Challenge.

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