

Moretown Planning Commission Minutes

Date: July 21, 2008

PC Attendees: Steve Sharp, Steve Robbins, Gene Kaslow, Don LaRocca, Dan Lynch

Guests: Visit to Scott Bauhman's home, wind and solar installation

Absent:

Start Time: 5:30 PM

Meeting Minutes:

1. Purpose of visit was to view installation of small scale homeowner wind turbine and solar panel power generator. This is follow-up of Scott's visit to PC meeting of June 16, 2008.
2. General Overview:
 - Scott installed a six panel pedestal mounted solar collector. The combined panel is approximately 8 ft wide X 8 ft long X 10 ft high. Space is provided for two future panels. Direct current produced is sent to a bank of deep cell storage batteries (these are not necessary but were part of original set up direct to house) and then to DC to AC inverter for delivery to the grid. The batteries and electronics are housed in an 8 ft X 12 ft free standing shed. All interconnecting wiring is underground.
 - The wind turbine is a mono pole multi guide wire installation approximately 100 ft high. The wire anchor points are 90 degrees apart approximately 50 ft from pole center. Power is also sent to the same shed with separate electronics. The pole is lowered yearly for inspection and service.
 - All three pieces: solar panel, turbine and shed are within an approximate 150 ft circle. Location from Route 2 is approximately 130 ft and the tower center is about 150 ft from the house and out buildings. From Route 2 only the top fourth of the tower is visible. The tower is about 100 ft from the road side tree line and 20 to 30 ft above it. No audible noise was noticed although winds were very light. Scott said noise is negligible in 10-15 MPH winds and inaudible at the house.
3. PC Discussion:
 - General consensus: there are numerous size, site and installation concerns which suggest that conditional use may be preferred over a split permitted and conditional structure. This site visit will be helpful in developing the zoning regulations. Visit concluded.
4. Other Business:
 - Motion to approve July 7, 2008 minutes Steve R, second Don L., approved by all. Meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM. Next meeting August 4, 2008.

*Minutes recorded by Don LaRocca