

Northeast CERT Meeting Summary

July 14, 2006

1:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Hartley Nature Center, 3001 Woodland Avenue, Duluth, MN 55803

Attendees: Jeff Schiltz, Barb Reed, Chris Reed, James Brew, Okey Ukaga, Pete Gravett, BJ Kohlstedt, John Dover, Tom Koehler, Steve Kluess, Amy Hexum, Janelle Stauff, Nicole Hynum, Steve Robinson, Bill Hilty, Larry Nelson, Dean Talbott, Honor Schauland, Ray Hatinen, Lauri Isaacson, Dave Abazs, Joel Haskard

Meeting Objectives:

- ✓ Kick off task forces as mechanism to guide project development
- ✓ Learn about sustainable building design and how Hartley Nature Center depicts elements of sustainable design
- ✓ Vote on NE CERT projects to fund

1:00 Task Force Meetings

2:00 Introductions

2:05 Announcements

- **Lake Superior Renewable Energy Fair, scheduled for Saturday, September 9th.** CERTs will have a table at the Lake Superior Renewable Energy Fair and we need volunteers! If you are willing to volunteer for a 3 hour shift, please contact Nicole Hynum at 218-726-6081 hynu0001@d.umn.edu or Joel Haskard at 612-625-8759 haska004@umn.edu.
- **Next Statewide CERT Conference slated for January 17th, 2007 in St. Cloud, Minnesota**
- **Kill-a-Watt Meter** Minnesota Power has partnered with the Duluth Library to provide meters that patrons can checkout and take home to see the energy usage of their refrigerators. They hope to eventually expand the project to libraries though out Minnesota Power's service territory.

2:15 Meeting Focus: Sustainable Buildings

- Primer: What makes a sustainable building? What are the features to think about? – James Brew, LHB James gave an excellent presentation about the factors that make a building green. His power point presentation will soon be available on the CERT website. To learn more about LHB, please visit <http://www.lhbcorp.com/>.
- Tour of Hartley Nature Center – Pete Gravett, Hartley Nature Center
 - How has Hartley Nature Center integrated sustainable building design components?
 - How does Hartley Nature Center connect these design features with education?Peter gave an informative ½ hour tour of the building and answered questions about the design components. To learn more about the green building technology at Hartley, please visit <http://www.hartleynature.org/Our%20Building/stats.htm>.

3:15 Proposal Presentations, Question and Answer and Voting

- University of Minnesota, Duluth proposal to work with several community partners to conduct an economic feasibility analyses of their individual wind resource – Nicole Hynum & Janelle Stauff
- Hartley Nature Center proposal to staff school outreach initiatives on behalf of NE CERT – Pete Gravett.

- North Shore Community School proposal to hire an energy educator and for energy audit and display materials – BJ Kohlstedt

The following funding recommendations were submitted by the NE steering committee and approved by the team after some discussion.

North Shore Community School: \$1760 provided they can lump \$320 work of materials into "professional services" and labor charges. BJ said this was doable, and that also they will be working closely with Hartley to utilize their energy educator.

University of Minnesota Duluth: \$2000. The steering committee and the team were concerned about overstating the value of the wind data inputs (and therefore output of the FS model) and were assured by Nicole and Janelle that the information wouldn't be oversold. Several suggestions were made by the team on how to improve the study's value. It was also suggested the spreadsheet for the feasibility study calculations include both small and large wind turbine alternatives.

Hartley Nature Center: \$1440 provided they could isolate specifically what the NE CERT would be funding. Peter will be working with the CERT's office and in contact with BJ to confirm that the energy educators hours are spent on priority projects of the NE CERT, and a project report will be completed by next June (2007).

4:15 Updates from Task Forces

- **Education/School Initiatives and Projects**: BJ reported that the group enjoyed hearing from Amy about all the different programs that Harbor City International school are doing, and gave examples about their bike program and their work to reduce food waste. For more information about Harbor City, please visit <http://www.harborcityschool.org/index.html>. BJ and John also updated the group about North Shore Community School. For more information about the school and to visit the 6th grade solar panel website, please visit <http://www.northshorecommunityschool.org/>. The group also talked about the benefits of doing wind monitoring at schools; not only is the data a decent first step in the process of deciding on location, but the activity gets the kids and eventually the parents involved and excited about renewable energy development. The website www.findsolar.com was mentioned for having a good solar estimator and being useful.
- **Community Initiatives and Projects**: Dave reported that the group mainly talked about the sustainable building design in apartments and specifically about the Woodland Hills Juvenile Treatment Center expansion and the Finland Community Center construction. They suggested having a workshop focus on a specific technology, and mentioned ground source heat pumps as an excellent starting point.
- **Energy Staffing Collaborative**: Dean led the overview on the various local organizations looking to expand their ability to deliver energy education and how they might possibly work together to share resources and personnel in the future. Still a work in progress, several of the major participants in this ongoing conversation were not at the meeting.

4:45 The tentative date and time for the next meeting will be **Friday, October 27th, 10am to 2pm, Proctor Area Community Center, Proctor, Minnesota.**

5:00 After the meeting adjourned folks made their way out to Dean Talbott's home for a potluck. Dean was the host with the most and there was good food and good conversation enjoyed by all. Thanks Dean!