

**BSR Board Meeting
EFG Office
Hinesburg, Vermont
December 16, 2010**

Attendees: Chuck Reiss, Tom Perry, Richard Faesy, Hillary Hunter, Hannah Hazelton

1) Solar Hot Water Workshops

- a) Finances for the workshops show the six sessions came out as a loss (of \$950), but this doesn't include the \$1750 of sponsorships.
- b) We have now paid off the curriculum development costs as well and won't be carrying the \$500 per workshop fee going forward.
- c) We bought a projector, which is working well (Hillary is happy with it).
- d) We now know how to market (through postcards) and can tap into "Vermont Green" for subsidized training of up to \$800.
- e) 26 people have been trained with only minimal advertising.
- f) The State subsidies for solar systems dried up 11/5. It is unknown whether this will be refunded. Therefore, REV is not as relevant
- g) The Federal 30% tax credit is still available for a few more years.
- h) Michael Horowitz is ready to schedule more sessions
 - i) It didn't matter where the workshops were since people drove from all over to attend
 - ii) Hillary to nail down Michael to set up 2011 workshop dates
 - iii) Better Building Conference is on February 9 & 10
 - (1) Set up dates before hand to promote here
 - (2) Offer discount by signing up here
- i) Possible next venues
 - i) Cobb Hill in Hartland (Chuck will ask Jeff Schelkopf)
 - ii) Green Mountain Club in Waterbury (Chuck will ask Jeff Schelkopf)
 - iii) Resource Systems Group in White River Junction? (Richard to ask)
- j) New sponsors
 - i) Blodgett is getting into it; Chuck will pursue sponsorship

2) Insulation Workshops

- a) Some BPI contractors have expressed a need to train insulation contractors
- b) Hillary will find the surveys for demand for green jobs in order to determine the demand for future workshops
 - i) Vermont Green survey
 - ii) Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund
 - iii) Burlington CEDO (Bruce Seifer)
- c) There was discussion and some concern about becoming a training organization; are we meeting our mission?

- 3) Membership
 - a) Set up to make it as easy as possible to sign up when signing up for solar workshops
 - b) We only have 40 current members
 - c) Jessica gave Hillary the old name of members in Excel
 - d) Hillary is hesitant about recruiting members until we have more to offer (newsletter, workshops, etc.)
 - e) We need to get our house in order while also holding workshops to generate income
 - f) We should go back and review the strategic plan that Hillary put together
 - i) Hillary will send out strategic plan to board
 - g) Focus should be to build our membership and organization back up
- 4) Finances
 - a) Checking: \$1591
 - b) Money Market: \$5674
 - i) Net Zero Energy Workshop balance is \$3674
 - ii) Solar workshops: \$2000
 - c) \$7265 total balance
 - d) Hillary still doesn't have access to the bank account
- 5) NESEA Chapter Status
 - a) NESEA is asking chapters to change their names and become "NESEA-VT"
 - b) BSR push-back:
 - i) We would like to maintain a relationship but not become the "NESEA brand"
 - ii) We would like to keep a local independent presence, but are willing to link and mention NESEA
 - iii) Our mission is broader than NESEA's (BSR includes green building and education), so adopting NESEA's would be more restrictive
 - iv) We need more clarity on what we would get in return?
 - v) How much autonomy and independence can we maintain?
 - vi) Let's try to strike a middle ground
 - vii) Hillary will contact Jessica to follow up and engage in the process
- 6) 501c3 Issues
 - a) Wally has all of our information now
 - b) We need to send out a response to the IRS by 12/20
 - c) Hillary will call up Wally Tapia on Friday to make sure that this information is going out
- 7) Logo
 - a) Hillary will come up with some new options
 - b) We need to make a decision and move forward
- 8) Topic Meetings
 - a) Zero Energy Codes by 2030
 - i) March 23, 2011 (Wed.)
 - ii) Burlington
 - b) Weatherization Jam Session
 - i) Coordinate with Efficiency First chapter, etc.

- ii) Tom will talk to Brad Cook, Malcolm Gray and Logan Brown to see if we can pull it off
- 9) Next Board Meeting
 - a) Hillary to send out strategic planning document
 - b) Tuesday January 18 at 7:00 at Energy Futures Group, 18 Mechanicsville Rd., Hinesburg 5:45.