



Meeting Minutes

Nederland Community Center
Community Center Conference Room

January 4, 2018, 7:15 P.M.

A. CALL TO ORDER: 7:15pm

B. ROLL CALL: Melody , Camille, Jen, Eryka, Kevin, Jake, Kelly

1. Guests: Chris P, Laurence Tadasey, Elizabeth Agee, David H. Crystal

C. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Review Xcel MOU

- a. Summary: this is an agreement to prioritize their services.
- b. Couple things that were vague, not binding agreement. Biggest questions: What does it do for us? Sets a framework, we're ready to cooperate together and this is the template that we are using.
- c. Make sure the town lawyer looks over to make sure it's to the towns advantage before we sign anything.
- d. Kevin questions: Any other entity that the municipality purchases services from, business that we pay for services or good that we have a similar relationship with? We prioritize services above anyone else because we have this MOU. What is Xcel's intentions- to make money. We should look at them as a for-profit corporations, we have it in our

code that we have to have 3 bids. We are hunting down the right path. Kevin is leaning towards not signing it. Not proper for a publicly funded entity to sign a MOU. What if we want to go with a non-xcel entity, what does this agreement uphold for xcel? Not set up to share since they are for profit. They should not treat us differently if we don't sign this. What if they do treat us differently? We have to look out for whats best for our community. It has to be our priority.

- e. Would this affect future programs/grants through NRAIL.
- f. Gives us a foot to stand on by signing it.
- g. Currently we see them helpful in crunching numbers for us, doing the MOU is helpful in that respect, worry working with them too much, instead of writing RFIs. By not signing this, they cannot withhold anything.
- h. Go through it and change some things. What gives us more leverage, signing or not signing, end goal, make 100% renewable energy. Why cut third party renewable energy providers who have helped us get this far?
- i. They are offering a solar garden, and there is a timing issue, Renewable*Connect. Want to have an agreement with the Town and then move forward. Fast track wordsmithing this.
- j. They are going renewable wither if they like it or not, smart to be cautious, non-binding, change language and pass it.
- k. Meeting on the 11th, the Board has a joint working session with the BOT and BOT wants to pass it.
- l. Timeline: Town staff by the 9th, then it would be in the packet for BOT meeting 16th then it would go to Xcel on the 11th.
- m. Everyone get their comments in by Saturday.

2. Xcel Presentation on Renewable*Connect options/summary/next steps

- a. Summary: 50 watt solar array in Deertrail CO, open to smaller users first, residential or commercial, bigger users were second. For the first year the credit they give you back is the same cost they you put out. Comparing to natural gas.
 - b. Do we think it is worth it for the town? Do E&O to let commercial owners and residential folks decide.
 - c. Calculate costs: 4cents/kwh, get a credit back based on cost and capacity, 2 cents back and other 2 cents based on how solar compares to electricity costs. if NG prices go down, we lose money, if NG go up we gain money.
 - d. They are good as selling what they have, it sounds like a good plan to start, but what happens in 5 years if we sign a 10 year contract with Xcel. If we dont bind into it, someone else will and we lose out. Its happening, its already being built, we have the motivation and support to pursitu other competitive bids. We collect excess and put that money back into projects. Sign up in theory is going to be in march, it would be built for another year.
 - e. Offered us LED streetlight program, but also want to get bid from local electrician.
 - f. We could potentially cover ¼ of municipality of use.
3. Wastewater Treatment Plant RFI for Solar Project: waiting on Namaste (who has volunteered some time) to get us some starter numbers and ideas for cost and general feasibility (looking good so far!) to help with focusing the RFI
- a. Jen will email everything from Namaste. Basically what they are doing is giving pointers on how to write the RFI. Working with the engineers to change the design for a flat roof, (and all the other expenses with changing the design, raise the walls, heating htat extra space, etc)

- b. How much area we have to put the solar panels on, how much Solar PV we can actually build. Maybe more the greenhouse. Efficiency and potential storage. How much area does Namaste need? PROSAB adamant at wanting a park.
- c. Where else could we put the greenhouse? Could we put solar panels where the park, covered amphitheatre is covered in solar. Fishermans parking lots, permanent stands for NFM have solar panels on
- d. Teens Center has solar, are they at capacity? What is their agreement with Xecl?
- e. Jen in contact with Lafayette for solar at their wastewater treatment plant, what did their RFIs look like?
- f. CU geography intern, helping Chris with mapping and rebate programs for the town, helping with the electricity spreadsheet and natural gas spreadsheet, and changes to ecopass program.

D. PRESENTATION ITEMS:

- 1. Food Security - Elizabeth Agee, Community member, permaculture designer/consultant. Would like to share information on solutions to food insecurity in Nederland and permaculture solutions.
 - a. 1/10 coloradans are struggling with food insecurity
 - b. Challenges to our food security:
 - i. Costly shipping , harsh growing seasons, access to affordable renewable energy, wildlife, grand scale climate change, poverty in our community. Creating systems where people are engaging with with food systems. With good design you can stack the utility and energy of each process.
 - ii. Inspire creativity with our greenhouse build to reduce costs and energy.
 - iii. intention: create a resilient community that is 100% food sovereign, educating, showing what's possible, pull people

together. Seed Library to bring up from Boulder. Food opportunities for volunteers and job creation.

- iv. Create a diverse ecosystem through a guild.
- v. Hunger Free Colorado, and Feeding America, and Boulder County food insecure people
- vi. Has a 501c3 to help with grant writing obtaining funding.
- vii. Collaborating with Victory Gardens, Community Garden, old homestead in Eldora
- viii. How to bring new conversations in schools and engagement to the public. Grant we have, can we partner with a non-profit partnership
 - 1. Underlining vision for Sustainability grants, if part of the plan for a greenhouse, for the town to use the funding to build the structures, then have the non-profit utilize the structure to run programs directly the community, that's in the boundaries. \$15,000 from BC, climate battery design for a 50 ft greenhouse. 14x14 space to showcase what can be done at their backyard. People would have a "rental plot" within the 50 ft space.
 - 2. \$15,000 is for: Geothermal and building the foundation, purchase everything for the climate battery and small solar generator, and then we just need a champion.
 - 3. RFP for partnerships, innovative and dynamic
 - 4. Add an addendum to the planning of Community Center and Gateway Park.
 - 5. Talking with Wild Bear for the Land Swap
 - 6. Paid job at DDA for Executive Director
 - 7. Growing Gardens- talk with them about GH

ACTION ITEMS:

2. MOU: Make a recommendation to BOT/town on SAB's views/concerns (if any) or changes we would suggest(if any)

E. OTHER BUSINESS:

1. Community Ag/Farmers Market Update
 1. prioritize the feedback from produce vendors since they are lower tier of sales
2. BOCO matching grant due February 8th
 1. Hire a part time sustainability coordinator: duties might include; zero waste action plan, implement the Envision Rating System/STARZ; have that person go to each advisory board meeting to measure continuity between boards. The benefits of the position would cover the costs of paying extra money for that position.
 1. impact and dial-in the towns matching portion
 1. Lyons has one, 20 hrs/ week @ maybe \$25/hr.: Proposed that this position would be implementing items in the Action Plan, working with local businesses with practices, electricity waste diversion, have a job description when applying. David will help by sending the grant application for their position. Find other funding opportunities to keep funding this type of position. Toby Russel at Lyons
 2. Worth it to get it on the BOT before we submit because it requires matching funds. We have had a coordinator in the past and main projects were the impermeable surfaces. DDA plan and PROSAB plan.
 3. All the DDA projects are going to be municipality projects, and the PROSAB is going for a big grant at the end of 2018.
 3. Mountain Sustainability Alliance Group: Stakeholder driven group: Quarterly
 1. Expand and open it up to other Mountain Communities
 4. Energy Smart Presentation- Residential program
 5. PACE program for commercial- new rebates for lighting

ADJOURNMENT: 9:41 pm

**Next Meetings: 1/11/18 BOT joint with Xcel at 9 am
1/25/18 7:15 pm Community Center**