

Meeting Minutes: CT Geothermal Association

Regular Meeting November 1, 2016

Location: Chuck's Steak House, 1299 Silas Deane Highway, Rocky Hill, CT

Dinner Meeting: 6:00pm till 9:00pm

I. 6:00 Social Time

II. 6:30 Dinner

III. Program

Dave Hermantin spoke on progress being made by the Renewable Thermal Alliance. This group is heavily in favor of promoting geothermal heat pump systems.

IV. Call to Order and Officers' Reports

A. Secretary's Report - posted to the web site

B. **Treasurer's Report - \$5,000.00 in new deposits were made last month. Current checking account balance is \$24,938.45. Our current membership stands at 20 paying members, with Platinum Sponsorship (\$3,500) by WaterFurnace, and Gold Sponsorship (\$2,000) by Blake Equipment. Many thanks to our members and especially our sponsors.**

V. Committee Reports

Scholarship: It is time to get to work on the 2016-2017 scholarship project. We will award two \$500 scholarships again. This year's committee is (again) Dave Corcoran, Dave Hermantin, Jim Sansoucy and John Sima. The group voted to make the criteria a little more challenging this year. Applicants will need to figure a heating/cooling loads for a simple house (plans provided by CT Geo), then design a geo heat pump system to serve it.

Geo Home Show: Mark has been working with his committee. Seeking exhibitors (partners), to participate. CT Geo members voted to contribute \$4,000.00 toward the project.

VI. Old Business

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Comprehensive Energy Strategy : The Draft Revised CES, is not out yet. Doug Dougherty has submitted written comments to DEEP in support of geo heat pumps. A public hearing will be held by DEEP on Thursday Nov. 3, at 1:00, at 10 Franklin Sq., New Britain. John and Guy are planning to submit comments and to speak. Please take the time to add your voice.

Federal Tax Credit: Last chance for the IRS Tax Credit is during the lame duck session in November. Bill Nowak (NY Geo) thinks there is a 50% chance of passage.

Yale Study on Renewable Thermal Technologies: An in-person meeting was held in NY on October 17. Dave Hermantin, Matt Davis, and Liu Xiaoping (Oak Ridge National Lab) made great presentations supporting geo heat pumps. This is a big group now, and we are lucky to have support from these heavy hitters.

VII. New Business

Leland Brandt (The Research Department, Inc.): Leland spoke to us in October. He prepared a proposal for his services to help bring our web site into the 21st century, and to help us promote our home show. He offers his services at \$95.00/hr. He also prepared cost estimates for upgrading the web site and for helping to market the home show.

Members indicated their preferences as follows:

- Upgrade the web site (minimal work, using Market Hardware) \$0 - \$2,695.00 - **No**
- Make the web site accessible by mobile devices ~\$1,000.00 - **Yes**
- Convert web site to WordPress -\$3,100.00. Hosting - \$150.00/yr. - **Yes**
- Facebook and Linkdin presence - \$600 - \$700/mo. + facebook price - - **speak to Leland**
- 3-month PR program (subcontract) to promote the home show - \$3,780.00 - **No**
- Direct mail campaign for the home show - \$3,000 - \$4,000 - **No**
- Marketing video - \$500 – **Maybe. See what Mark H's group learns**

Let's vote whether to hire Leland, and for what.

Elections: We need to nominate officers for elections next month. Remember that John Sima's and Ray Sima's terms are expiring this year. Bring nominations to the meeting. It's OK to nominate (volunteer) yourself!

Nominees, so far:

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President – Dave Hermantin

Vice President – Jim Sansoucy, Guy Wanegar

Secretary – Peter Tavino, Chris Sima

Treasurer – Dave Hermantin, Rob Sima

We will finalize this nominee' list at the December meeting, and vote on new officers.

Other New Business?

Topics for December – Leland Brandt, whether to hire a part-time executive director, vote on officers.

9:00 Adjournment