

# Meeting Minutes: CT Geothermal Association

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Regular Meeting September 6, 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

Greg Burns, of Renew Financial (formerly First Financial), **made** a presentation on lending programs available for commercial geothermal projects.

## IV. Call to Order and Officers' Reports

- A. Secretary's Report - posted to the web site
- B. Treasurer's Report – **Checking balance is \$19,223.45 Non-profit registration has been renewed.**

## V. Committee Reports

Scholarship: We awarded two \$500 scholarships in June, to CT Trade School students - Josh Stanavage, at Norwich Tech, and Austin Misorski, at Vinal Tech. We received a nice thank-you from Josh. Should we offer to make a formal presentation to them? Where? When? **Members voted to do it again this year.**

Geo Home Show: Mark and John met with Priscilla, at the Energize CT center in North Haven, in June. We reserved a date for a geothermal home show – January 28, 2017, 10:00 – 4:00 **Mark and the committee will meet to work on details.**

## VI. Old Business

Comprehensive Energy Strategy : The Draft Revised CES, is due to come out late this fall. It appears that Geothermal Heat Pumps might be supported in that draft. We need to keep making the decision makers aware of the benefits of geo.

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Federal Tax Credit: No news on renewal of the Tax Credit. Some members have sent letters to their congressmen. Thank you.

Yale Study on Renewable Thermal Technologies: Dave Hermantin heads up the Technology committee for this group. Mark Henderson provided Helle Gronli with sales numbers, for geothermal heat pumps, for recent years. Progress is being made. NYSERDA and the Connecticut Green Bank are participating, and seem to be 'thinking big'.

Habitat for Humanity: Habitat's Dawn Whalen offered CT Geo a full page ad, for half price. We took it = \$250. The ad was a simple congratulations statement, followed by a list of our current members.

CT Geo's own geo incentive: Peter Tavino suggests that CT Geo might offer its own incentive for geo. \$200/ton would be paid to recipients of the utility companies' \$500/ton. This would only apply to systems installed by CT Geo members. The project would be funded by \$8,000 from our own treasury. Let's discuss this, and vote on it. **Members voted not to do this.**

## VII. New Business

Frederick Wanegar: Guy's father passed away on July 30. His Obituary noted that donations may be made to the New England air Museum. Would the members like to make a donation? **Members voted to donate \$100.00 to the museum in Fred's memory.**

Membership Renewals: Renewal notices were sent out in July, and again on Sept 3. Please be sure to renew your memberships.

Pressure Testing Loops: The Mechanical Code requires that geo loops be pressure tested to 100 psi with water. Many (most?) installations are not pressure tested this way. Can we / should we attempt to modify this requirement? **Members voted to invite the Woodbridge building inspector, and the State building inspector to our November meeting to discuss this.**

REEBA: CT Geo paid a sponsorship of the August 16 dinner with DEEP Deputy Commissioner Katie Dykes. John Sima paid the \$500 sponsorship, and would like to be reimbursed. Paul Michaud noted that geothermal is the 'poor stepchild' of the renewable industry. Katie noted, in her remarks that the new CES needs to do things with large scope. She noted also that she regrets that Connecticut's electric energy cost is among the highest in the nation.

NEGPA: NEGPA and the Mass CEC are sponsoring a geo seminar on September 12, at 63 Franklin St., Boston. Check the NEGPA website for details.

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REEBA: REEBA is sponsoring a Municipal Energy Summit on September 22, 8:00 – 1:00, and requests that CT Geo take a booth for \$700. Does the membership want to take a booth? **The booth is complimentary. John and others will man one on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.**

CT Housing Coalition The CT Housing Coalition is holding an event at the Connecticut Convention Center on September 22. Attendance costs \$150. **Ray Sima volunteered someone from Sima Drilling Co. to attend on behalf of the association. CT Geo will pay the \$150.00**

CBIA: CBIA is sponsoring its annual What's the Deal event on October 5, 8:00 to 2:00, at the Marriott, Cromwell. Booth space costs \$500, which includes 2 attendee passes. We have taken a booth in the past. Do we want to participate this year? **Members voted to take a booth for \$500. John and Guy volunteered to man the booth.**

CT Green Bank: The Green Bank is holding a Matchmaking event, to discuss market trends and collaboration opportunities. This is also on October 5, and will be held 3:00-6:00 at the Sheraton Hartford South, Rocky Hill. Contact person is Madeline Priest.

October Monthly Meeting: NY Geo would like to present Guy Wanegar with his Top Job award at our next monthly meeting. John Manning would like to include legislators and news people at that meeting, to help raise awareness for geo. **Members voted to go ahead.**

Other New Business?

Attendees:

Mark Henderson, Guy Wanegar, Jim Sansoucy, Rich Vocke, Paul Pinto, Dave Corcoran, Ray Sima, Rob Sima, Chris Sima, John Sima, Greg Burns