

City of Cambridge  
Climate Protection Action Committee

Minutes  
December 10, 2009  
City Hall Annex

*Committee Attendees:* Betsy Boyle, David Rabkin, Janet Curtis, Jonathan Abe, Keren Schlomy, Kristin Lewis, Lauren Miller, Mead Wyman, Quinton Zondervan, Steve Lanou, Suzanne Shepard, Terry Smith, Bill Zamparelli

*Staff:* Rosalie Anders, John Bolduc

*Guests:* Daniel Bergey, Abigail Tischler, Lilah Glick, Tom Page, Alex Patriquin

**1. The meeting minutes of November 12, 2009 were approved.**

**2. Report of the ET&P Director**

A. Grants update

- DOE approved \$250,000 for a community energy efficiency campaign from the energy block grant.
- The City's municipal buildings project under the energy block grant is still pending.
- CEA has applied for the High Performance Buildings grant administered by the state DOER; it's ARRA funding.
- Massachusetts is applying for the Competitive Energy Block Grant "Ramp Up" from the US DOE that may benefit CEA if successful.

B. The official Health & Environment Committee public hearing for the Stretch Energy Code was held December 9, 2009. John B. stated that most of the comments were negative, though there was some disagreement on that from others. The next step is the City Council meeting on 12/21 when the Council can vote to adopt the stretch code. The Committee discussed this item, including whether someone should testify representing CPAC and what would they say:

- \* Terry S. believes that there are still open questions (e.g. Utility incentives) and therefore the City should wait to vote/approve the code until DPU rules are promulgated.
- \* John B. stated that the DOER has said that the DPU agrees that incentives for stretch code communities should be the same as for non-code communities.
- \* Suzanne S. noted that the most vocal opposition came from a few architects who are afraid that their properties may not do well on a blower door test.
- \* It was decided that no one would testify but that CPAC could restate what it had already said in previously issued documents.

- C. The Climate Emergency Congress is Saturday December 12. There will be 108 Delegates, including students, business people and representative of other communities within Cambridge. It is open to the public.
- D. The MA General Court (Legislature) approved Cambridge's Home Rule petition to authorize the City to engage the Cambridge Energy Alliance for energy services.
- E. The CEA is launching smartercambridge.org website to help users track how much \$ they would save by taking various actions that lower their carbon footprint and encourage action through social networking.
- F. The Measurement and Goals Subcommittee met with NSTAR and are working on disaggregating electricity usage numbers.
- G. CDD is organizing an electric vehicle roundtable in January per the CPAC interim recommendation.
- H. Cambridge will be on a state agency team under a National Governors Association/Department of Energy policy academy program that will work on commercial building retrofits and building energy benchmarks that maybe help with the CPAC recommendation on building energy labeling.
- I. CPAC recruitment continues. They have nine applications and at least three openings. They will take applications through January.

### **3. January 2009 Meeting: Climate Change Adaptation**

The focus should be to assess Cambridge's vulnerabilities to the impacts of Climate Change and recommend actions and/or a process to determine actions to be taken to prevent those impacts. Experts still need to be selected to present. Areas include public health and sea level rise.

### **4. Community Outreach - Part 2**

The Committee discussed what outreach/engagement goals (audiences & outcomes) we can recommend to the City.

Different ways to reach people other than the environmental argument include Moral/Religious, Economics (Saving \$ & improve reputation), Public Health, Agricultural, and Bandwagon (its cool to do it).

The CEA is planning on forming industry councils - finding best practices within different industries that can be adopted by others within the industry.

The Committee discussed what it means to "meet people where they are." For the Public Health department that meant focus groups to find out where they were and what they'd respond to.

**HOMEWORK:** Think about how to make the CPAC process work - be a useful, effective group. Does this format work?

*Notes prepared by Keren Schlomy*