

City of Cambridge
CLIMATE PROTECTION ACTION COMMITTEE

Minutes

Thursday, May 13, 2010
City Hall Annex

Attendees: David Rabkin (chair), Quinton Zondervan (vice chair), Jackie Cefola, James Eliscar, John Moore, Jon Abe, Kathy Araujo, Lilah Glick, Marguerite Reynolds, Mead Wyman, Barry Hilts, Steve Lanou, Suzanne Shepard, Terrence Smith, Tom Page, Bill Zamparelli; *staff:* Susanne Rasmussen, Rosalie Anders, John Bolduc

Guests: Garrett Anderson, Abigail Tischler, Joanna Herlihy, John MacDougall

1. Introduction of new and old CPAC members

2. Approval of Minutes – March 11, 2010 & April 8, 2010 – Approved

3. Report of the E&TP Director

- a. City received \$1.1 million EECBG (\$350k to CEA)
- b. Submitting Green Community Application on 5/14/10
- c. 5/28/10 submitting application for GC funding (but getting more competitive as more communities qualify)
- d. Up to 22 communities adopt stretch code
- e. 5/18/10 – res stretch code training
- f. City and Climate Congress meeting through June to see how to work together
- g. 5/25/10 – annual go green awards
- h. Green zoning task force recommendations before City Council Ordinance Comm. 5/18/10 – related planning committee meeting
- i. MA EOEEA number of public meetings to go over Draft Climate Plan
- j. PACE – MA does not currently allow; but part of Muni Relief Act. PACE would allow for communities to finance clean energy improvements through tax bill
- k. Between 2000 and 2008, 5% reduction in car commuters.

4. Cambridge Energy Alliance: Overview, Experience, & Future by Lilah Glick & Garrett Anderson, CEA

- a. Objectives: Update on CEA's programs, experience to date, and future directions; identify what can CPAC and the City do to support CEA goals and objectives; identify what can the community do to support and nurture CEA; develop next steps for CPAC

- b. 80% of GHG emissions from buildings; 2/3 from C&I&I.
- c. CEA started – gov at front line, City Council commitment, economic development, and model for others.
- d. Goals – 50 WM peak demand reduction, 10% fuel reduction
- e. Kendall Foundation and City collaboration with escos, community organizations, and financing institutions. Initial goal of \$100 million of financing impacted by downturn
- f. Barriers – split incentives, relative low cost of energy, program complexity, lack of trust in contractors, building codes, not enough auditors (working to improve response), program apathy (address with targeted outreach), financial crisis.
- g. Discussion – Why so much effort on residential? Because community program, seeking broad cultural change.
- h. Redesign – become one-stop-shop connector (service companies, engineers, financing, utility, and City), aggregator of EE programs and resource connector, promote low cost audits for residential/ small business, large C&I capital projects and employee education, potential matching grant program.
- i. Discussion – How do all the components of a project funding and financing get come together for a homeowner? Garrett helps when folks can't manage the process.
- j. There currently isn't but soon will be an efficiency incentive for oil heat through the state via ARRA. There are also oil to natural gas conversion incentives through NSTAR.
- k. EE Public Benefit funds pay for NSTAR and Mass Save incentives.
- l. Activities – 120 business audits (50 working on projects), 900 residential audits signed-up (600 residential audits have been conducted or scheduled), Energy Advisor position.
- m. Discussion – What is increase in audit/ conversion to EE v. the baseline? Not certain yet, but estimated 2 to 3 times better. CEA is working with Mass Save to share data. Signs point toward CEA having a huge impact.
- n. Outreach Overview – 75 workshops since March 2009, website, blog, social networking, carbon calculator, low-income outreach, community partnerships. Promote behavioral change, small investments with big impacts. Canvassing.
- o. Discussion. Difference from Mass Save. Community presence and dedication to support through the process.
- p. Upcoming Community Mobilization Program. Targets programs for residential, low income, and small commercial – very grassroots.
- q. Challenges. Measurement & verification of results, launching the green lease program to address split incentive between tenant and landlord, NSTAR program changes, working on large C&I programs, reaching beyond the choir, sharing successes.
- r. Discussion. CEA should be proud of achievements.
- s. More brainstorming at next meeting on how to work together?

5. City Manager/ Department Head Meeting Debrief

- a. The meet was very exciting and high powered, but will anything happen? - MW
- b. They invited follow-up. Recommend having a dept. head come to every other meeting. -LG
- c. There is a real commitment. Check out the city budget and related meeting if you have 12 to 14 hours of free time. Sustainability is part of every department budget and mandate. – TS
- d. City Newsletter, office of information offered as a resource – we must take advantage of this – QZ
- e. Commitment to report back on next steps re: vulnerability assessment – SR
- f. Not much feedback to CPAC from Manager and Department Heads – DR. But they will get back to us, and we should focus on recommending goals that the City can sell to the community. –SR
- g. City Manager also said that this is just not about dollars and cent and that the City factors in other goals – JB.
- h. Next steps – need support for revolving loan fund and more emphasis on how to help businesses and institutions. – BH

6. Next Meeting Objective. Some ideas: measures, goals, department head, budget, communications, green building task force? –DR

- i. Need to discuss goals and metrics for CPAC? – QZ. Seconded by TP (also should coordinate better on goals and metrics with department heads)
- ii. Lets table green building findings until they are further developed – TS
- iii. How about DPW talking about municipal energy reduction goals? – SR
- iv. Discuss how to get and coordinate goals with entities outside the City and learn more about that – JB
- v. Focus on recommendations on communications through City information office and through CEA (per CEA request) – JC
- vi. Next week Staff and Executive Team will plan and implement agenda. Please send additional ideas. - DR

Adjourn

Notes prepared by Jon Abe