

City of Cambridge
CLIMATE PROTECTION ACTION COMMITTEE

Meeting Notes

Thursday, September 16, 2010
City Hall Annex

Members Present: David Rabkin (chair), Quinton Zondervan (Vice Chair), Betsy Boyle (Secretary), Jackie Cefola, James Eliscar, Jan Dillon, Kathy Araujo, Lauren Miller, Lilah Glick, Marguerite Reynolds, Mead Wyman, Rick Mattila, Steve Lanou, Suzanne Shepard, Terry Smith, Tom Page, Bill Zamparelli; *staff:* Susanne Rasmussen, Rosalie Anders, John Bolduc

Guests: Melanie Arzt, Randi Mail

1. Approval of Minutes – August 12, 2010
 - Minutes were approved unanimously by the Committee.
2. Additional Agenda Item: Election of Officers
 - Chairman David Rabkin added an additional agenda item to discuss the need to elect Committee Officers. The current Chair is Rabkin, Vice Chair is Quinton Zondervan, and Secretary is Betsy Boyle. The Committee is currently seeking volunteers for the positions of Vice Chair and Secretary. The Chair position is also available, but Rabkin is willing to serve for an additional term.
 - **Action item:** Committee members interested in being an Officer, please let Rabkin or John Bolduc know.
3. Presentation on Single Stream Recycling by Randi Mail, Recycling Director, Department of Public Works.
 - Randi presented on the City's plans to change over to a single-stream recycling system for the residential curbside program.
 - New program will be in effect October 25th. Toters will be given to all households in buildings with up to five units. Benefits include: the new program is expected to increase recycling volumes up to 25% and expands the types of material recyclable; system will use compacting packer trucks minimizing number of truck trips; less clutter on streets with bigger bins; and greater revenue to City. Will be using pedal-powered pickup vehicles for City-owned recycling bins. Will consider adding composting program if feasible.
 - It was noted that a comprehensive community outreach program is being implemented, with an effort to tie recycling to energy and climate issues. It was suggested that the DPW consider promoting more waste prevention measures including material reduction and reuse.
 - Visit <http://www.cambridgema.gov/TheWorks/departments/recycle/singlestream.html> for more information on the program.

4. Report of the E&TP Director

- Susanne Rasmussen updated the Committee on the following issues:
 - Stretch energy code: Oct. 6, from 6-8:30PM there will be a training session for builders and contractors.
 - City is awaiting news on their grant proposal for “EPA Climate Showcase Communities”. Expect to hear by October 15th.
 - MIT lost its grant proposal to US DOE for its “Building Energy Efficiency Hub”.
 - Parking permit fee increase: There will be an City Council Ordinance Committee meeting September 23 at 5:30PM to consider the measure. CPAC members should attend meeting to voice opinion on the proposal.
 - **Action item:** Committee members should attend Parking Permit ordinance meeting to voice opinion.
 - Wind assessment at Danehy Park: the City in collaboration with an MIT student group will be installing wind measurement equipment at the park in October to assess the feasibility of installing a wind turbine.
 - Cambridge Energy Alliance: With a reorganization of the CEA, there has been significant staff turnover. CEA is currently seeking a new Community Outreach Manager. CEA will be implementing the new City’s energy efficiency block grant program for residential and small commercial energy efficiency outreach.
 - Adaptation planning: City staff will be attending a multiday training session on climate adaptation planning to build capacity in this area. Staff will then be meeting with City department heads to begin planning the adaptation assessment as recommended by CPAC.
 - “City View” publication: The City will be developing a centerfold insert into the publication to inform the community about the City’s climate protection work. One objective is to promote community action and support for climate initiatives.

5. Additional Agenda Item: Terry Smith announced that the Board of the Cambridge Chamber of Commerce has voted unanimously to join the national effort “Chambers for Innovation and Clean Energy”, which is supporting efforts for national policies to support climate change and energy policies. More information at: <http://chambersforinnovation.com/> .

6. Subcommittees on 2010 CPAC Report and Metrics & Goals: Updates and Logistics

- Rabkin reviewed the purpose and objectives of two new proposed subcommittees and the objectives for the meeting. Two handouts were distributed to the Committee that outlined the purpose of the subcommittees. Rabkin and the Committee discussed the following:
 - Review of the August meeting discussions on these topics and layout formation of two subcommittees to develop the report and recommendations on metrics
 - Discuss how past CPAC recommendations fit into these 2 tasks

- Discuss goals for each subcommittee
 - Review deliverables & timelines
 - Assign members to each subcommittee
 - The following was decided: Seek to have a rough draft of the 2010 Report by the November CPAC meeting; a lead author is needed; format will be highly narrative, short and snappy, telling a story about Cambridge's climate protection program and where it is headed.
 - **Action item:** volunteers needed to be 2010 Report lead author and report contributors.
 - The Metrics subcommittee decided: will work to develop recommended metrics and a suite of goals for the next phase of the City's plan as outlined in the handout by the December CPAC meeting. Metrics and goals will be designed to show trends of progress better than a single greenhouse gas emissions total, and reflect actions the City can take and have an influence on. For the October CPAC meeting, the subcommittee expects to have a draft of potential metrics and goals to discuss.
 - Bolduc will send out an email with a Doodle invitation to determine best times for the subcommittees to meet before the next CPAC meeting.
 - **Action items:** respond to the Doodle invitation; volunteer for a subcommittee; volunteer to be a subcommittee chair.
7. Committee member Kathy Araujo announced that MIT faculty member Harvey Michaels has expressed his interest in working with the city to promote residential and commercial energy efficiency measures. Kathy will be exploring this possibility.
8. Adjournment
- Meeting adjourned 7:58PM.

Notes taken by Steve Lanou