

Cambridge Climate Protection Action Committee

Minutes

September 13, 2012

Present: Quinton Zondervan (chair), Jackie Cefola (vice chair), Milton Bevington, Carri Boiselle, Betsy Boyle, Janet Curtis, Jan Dillon, Jennifer Stacy (Harvard), Sarah Hill, Barry Hilts, Johanna Jobin, Steve Lanou, Lauren Miller, Tom Page, David Rabkin, Keren Schlomy, Suzanne Shepard, Scott Wood, William Zamparelli; *staff:* Susanne Rasmussen, John Bolduc, Jen Lawrence

Guests: Melissa Chan, Rosalie Anders, Sam Lipson, Travis Sheehan, Kyle Greaves

1. ETP Director's Report- Susanne Rasmussen

- October 3 – Solar Potential Event, solar map web tool
- September 21 - Parking Day
 - Spaces converted, shows how much space used by parked cars.
 - Have sent invites to take over space.
 - 18 devoted including East Cambridge Dogs and 3 for Cambridge
 - Option for long term conversion – currently cost prohibitive but will look at again
 - Call for committee members to staff 3 Cambridge spots, 8a-3pm, Porter Sq City Sports
 - City Smart
 - CEA
 - CDD games
- Introduced Jen Lawrence, Sustainability Planner – Running Parking Day
- Urban Forest Canopy Report – on CDD website
- Hubway
 - Number of stations increasing; usage report available on 15th.
 - Cambridge has 15% of the bikes in the system -> will increase to about 20%.
 - Spotcycle app has lots of info.
 - Interest in business community wanting to invest
 - Some complaints about bad riders
 - Corporate memberships – 100% of the money will go back into the Cambridge system
- Vulnerability Assessment is close to contract; start in Oct and done by 2013
- MAPC Regional Adaptation Study – John and Sam attending
- LED streetlights - \$2m for first 1/3 of changing
- Planner position posted

2. Motion for Approval on Meeting minutes- Minutes of 6/14/12 and 7/12/12 approved

3. Sam Lipson, Environmental Health Director, Cambridge Public Health Department

- Talked about experience of the process of interviewing firms and tossing out ideas for the vulnerability assessment.
- Mosquito Control – climate changes seen as a driver; public health challenge
- Modeling public health impacts, difficulties predicting
- Interviews – firm hired by city to do assessment; Sam was there representing the Public Health Department
- Three areas climate change impacts public health response
 - Programs of public health, skill set, staff mix to address problems
 - Capacity of healthcare system (handle health crisis, includes fire, police, etc) – ex. heat wave
 - Epidemiology – using what we understand about disease models; vectors, impacts of heat; bridge vectors (increase rate via reservoir)
 - Ex. West Nile Virus outbreak in US (MA relatively spared)
 - Cases increased quickly
 - States had taken away monitoring resources
 - Challenged ability to look for patterns
 - MA slightly (not radically like some of the most impacted states) defunded surveillance
 - Mild winter gave mosquitoes a head start
 - Tend not to be working on vaccine – not priority
 - Unpredictable nature of problem – hard to predict reservoirs
 - Mosquito Control District – Dave Henley (recommend as possible speaker)
 - Fears about EEE (Tiger Mosquito example)
 - Climate Health Program – CDC
- Assessment = better prepared, better decision making, assessment of organizational capacity
 - Firms brought in for engineering; gap in knowledge of urban public health
 - 2-3 good firms
 - Epidemiological, emergency response (different ways of looking at)
- Climate Change through public health lens – graspable, not yet politicized, friendly vehicle, not yet able to get specific on impacts, frustration when used poorly in an argument
- Larvacide (BTI) – temp applicator license, in 2005, state changed regs so municipalities cannot do – currently a bill to change
- Different reactions to spraying – outer ring happy and want more, inner core people do not like/are concerned
- Sam sending info on bill to address larviciding issue
- Public health ask – budget for surveillance (state) -> more sophisticated

4. July 12 CPAC Meeting follow-up – Alternative Fuels

- Summary in approved notes

- Suggest schedule 2-3 meetings to address piece by piece, avoid having 25 people do draft
- John to schedule one meeting between each upcoming CPAC meeting
 - Alt fuels
 - Entrepreneurship and schools

5. Report on 8/2 Climate Change Entrepreneurship Roundtable

- Roundtable hosted at One Broadway, 20 people, mostly energy related, start-ups, innovation center, city staff
- Asked people to respond to questions, thoughts on what clean energy sector needs.
- Issues
 - Space to support start-ups (especially clean energy – need for garage space to develop products; lab space expensive)
 - Funding – firms need funding (\$10K-150K) at later stage for data and to ask investors
 - State funding? Clean Energy Center
 - Web-based platforms
 - Proximity to redline – space just not in Kendall
 - Communication between city and start-ups
- Test bed – fleshing out notion of what a test bed is
 - Pecan St, Austin – good model (<http://www.pecanstreet.org/>)
- Piloting products at businesses – invite local businesses to present ideas (more info on this being sent)
- Questions on Kendall Zoning (Susanne sending info)
- Critical threshold for space to support entrepreneurs
- Start-up versus established tech companies – natural flux

Notes prepared by Jennifer Stacy