

CPAC Meeting Minutes
May 12, 2011
City Hall Annex

Attendees: David Rabkin (chair), Quinton Zondervan (vice chair), Marguerite Reynolds (Secretary), Barry Hiltz, Jackie Cefola, John Moore, John Francis, Keren Schlomy, Lauren Miller, Steve Lanou, Terry Smith, Tom Page, Bill Zamparelli; *staff:* Susanne Rasmussen, Rosalie Anders, John Bolduc

Guests: Sarah Hill, Ted Live, Scott Wood, Peter Crawley, Jamie Bemis, Victoria Wolff

1. Report of the ET&P Director.

- *Go Green Awards*- winners announced.
- *Air Conditioner Swap Program through CEA*- contact DPW to arrange for pick up of old units. One per household for a \$125 voucher.
- *Solarize Mass*- Grant was awarded by lottery system and unfortunately Cambridge was not a recipient.
- *Climate Week*- May 13- May 21. Citizen initiative organizing climate-themed events.
- *Solicitation for new CPAC Members*- The city received 17 applications. The City Manager will make a decision about appointments this summer.
- *Budget Highlights*- funding from parking permit fee increase made FY2012 projects possible including the vulnerability assessment and development of climate communication strategy.

2. Approval of the Minutes-

- With a correction on page 2 of the April 2011 Minutes (80% of emission in Cambridge come from *building* activity, not “business activity”) there was a unanimous vote to approve the minutes.
- We still need to review and approve the March 2011 Minutes.

3. Cambridge Public School Sustainability Initiatives- presentation by Kristen Von Hoffmann, Sustainability Manager, Cambridge Public School District.

- Sustainability Initiative uses an approach called PFEWG to examine different aspects where sustainability improvements can be made: Products, Food, Energy, Waste, Greenspace.
- CPAC members asked for more details about certain categories that seemed to be missing from assessment. Ms. Von Hoffman assured the group that issues such as water and transportation were grouped together under “Energy.”
- Members proposed incorporating sustainability into the curriculum and focusing on connections with families. The feedback from family and students could be interesting. Students applying energy saving practices at home is a good way to communicate with a larger community.
- David Rabkin asked how CPAC can assist the Sustainability Initiative. Ms. Von Hoffmann said she would get back to us but manpower was the area she was lacking in the most. While CPAC can’t provide manpower we can be helpful in making a statement about what the city’s concerns should be.

4. Climate Protection Goal Setting Process

- The group reviewed three documents: Minutes from Climate Plan ‘Refresh’ Work Sessions (Jan Dillon’s small group), John Bolduc’s outline re changing goals, and Quinton Zondervan’s climate mitigation goals focusing on fossil fuels.
- John Bolduc reviewed Jan’s minutes with the group. **Action step:** Members should review the list of ideas highlighted from the “Refresh” Work Session and brainstorm more ideas to add to the list.
- John Bolduc then reviewed his outline for changing goals.
 - We need to think of our goal in the context of Cambridge. It won’t be the same as a goal in a different community.
 - John Francis suggested including “community engagement” in criteria.
 - Not necessarily a criteria to add but part of criteria of “fitting in local context” might be collaboration with neighboring towns- regionalization.
 - How effective is the goal in mobilizing? (e.g. We can adopt the state’s goal and be done with it but who would that influence?)
- Quinton proposed focusing on fossil fuel reduction as a goal instead of measuring GHG emission which is very difficult to do.
 - Changing source of electricity from fossil fuel to renewables might be one of the goals.
- One problem for moving forward is that we have not yet agreed on an overall goal. **Action step for next meeting:** Each member should come prepared with what he or she thinks the goal should be moving forward.

Notes prepared by Marguerite Reynolds