

City of Cambridge
Climate Protection Action Committee

Meeting Minutes

July 14, 2011
City Hall Annex

Attendees: David Rabkin (chair), Quinton Zondervan (vice chair), Marguerite Reynolds (secretary), Alison Sander, Jan Dillon, Janet Curtis, Keren Schlomy, Suzanne Shepard, Terry Smith, Tom Page; *staff:* Susanne Rasmussen, John Bolduc

Guests: Scott Wood, Sarah Hill, Ted Live, Tiffany Bartz, Carri Boiselle, Grey Lee

1. Report of the ET&P Director.

- *Electric Vehicle Grant-* Cambridge is one of the recipients for a grant, a ceremony for all recipients will be held next Friday (7/22) in Lexington, MA. The grant will consist of an award of charging stations and funds to install them.
- *Cambridge Energy Alliance-* The organization will no longer be an independent non-profit and instead will become part of the Community Development Department. It will probably only have one person on staff but it has about 18 volunteers. Part of the financial ability for the City to take CEA in house is a result of the increased parking permit fees.
- *Air Conditioner Swap Program through CEA -* program is going well. The city expects to give out over 250 vouchers. One negative side effect that was unanticipated was scrappers taking the old AC units off the sidewalk. When that happens the city doesn't have control over proper disposal of Freon.
- *New Members* - John and Rosalie have interviewed 17 candidates. Appointments to be made at the end of the summer.
- *PACE Legislation-* City Council is discussing a policy order to support this legislation in Congress.
- *Bill to Repeal 2007 law promoting energy efficient lighting-* Congress didn't pass.
- *Study of Kendall and Central Square –* The Community Development Department is working with stakeholders to develop a planning vision for the areas. MIT has proposed additional new development that requires upzoning. Sustainability is one of the study elements.

2. Goal Setting Process

- John Bolduc drafted the overarching goal to be more aspirational and the subgoals to be specific and short term.
- Should we keep the preamble? Some members thought it was useful.
- Include objective to address urban heat island effect.
- Regarding Objective 1: The consensus was that even new buildings (post-2008) should be counted when taking an inventory of ghg emission even if they are covered by the zoning ordinance's LEED requirements.
- We need to be specific about how we are handling development. There should be an overall emission reduction measurement but also an energy intensity measurement.

- Members should submit suggestions to John. Wordsmithing should only be for the preamble. We are still at the early stages for the objectives so only submit suggestions for what should be on the list, how it should be grouped and what measurements we should take etc.

3. Climate Protection Actions

- Developed by a small working group for high level (not specific) goal setting.
- The last session focused on outreach and engagement. Jan will update the document to reflect that last meeting.
- Adding a glossary suggested.
- Highlight what has been a key part in past efforts and what has worked in the past.
- Climate Historian - we are not capturing the monumental shifts in how the city operates. For example the street lamps are switching to LED lights. This will have a big impact on the city's energy use.

4. Public Process for Adopting Goals

- Strawman document to be put out to public. The question for the public is what should be added and what should come out of it.
- For mass marketing crowd sourcing is an option. Finland did this for their constitution. IBM has done it with employees, clients etc.
- Online town meetings focused on different topics for different constituents.
- Not everything should be online because there is an equity issue.
- There is a small group of people that care about giving input to shaping the city's goals. We need to make sure that group is included.

5. Bike Share Zoning Change

- "Hubway" arriving in Boston on 7/23
- Cambridge should be up and running this fall or this spring at the latest
- The program will run 9 months out of the year.
- We need to change our zoning to allow the stations on public and private property. The stations will only be allowed as part of the program.
- Monday 7/18 at 4:30 the Ordinance Committee is meeting on this amendment.
- Planning Board hearing is on 7/26 at 7 pm.

(John determined that based on the number of members that have stepped down from the committee that we actually had a quorum to vote.)

Should CPAC send a letter to the ordinance committee, planning board, and city council endorsing the zoning amendment?

VOTE: YES-unanimous

Approval of 3/10/11 and 5/12/11 meeting minutes?

VOTE: Yes- unanimous

John will send out a poll to determine whether we will have a meeting in August.

Notes prepared by Marguerite Reynolds