

Energy Commission Meeting 1/26/10

In Attendance: Sam Cleaves, Linda Brayton, Linda Stout-Sanders, Michelle Dyer, Jill Buchanan, Tom Balf, John Moskal, Gregg Catamatori, Bill Sanborne, Sarah Buck-Garcia.

Discussion Items:

- Minutes from December meeting were approved.
- Sam reported that there is no word on whether or not our <35,000 ARRA grant application has been approved yet (see December minutes for details on spending designations from this grant). State sources say that we may hear by February.
- Communications and Outreach: We plan to host the first of several workshops on the Building Stretch Code aspect of GCA on February 11. Construction-related retailers suggest that hosting a meeting in the morning will likely bring in a bigger crowd, so we have shifted our timeframe to do so (8:30 a.m. or 9:00 a.m.). Structure is as follows: Mike Berry to present on details of the stretch code; builder or contractor from Newton (we hope) will present on what adoption of the stretch code means for the building community. We are still working to nail down a location to host the workshop. Timberline is considering hosting the event at the Gloucester House and inviting their contact list of 130+contractors. We are waiting to hear back from them. In the meantime, Jill will work to identify backup locations (The Building Center and Sawyer Free Library). Workshop attendees will receive a 1-page handout summarizing covered topics. Invitations will go out to city councilors, contractors, builders, realtors and other related businesses.
- Subsequent stretch code workshops will focus on specific aspects of the impact of the Stretch Code, such as HERS rating, more specifics about Green Communities, etc.
- If the Stretch Code workshops are received positively, we may bring the Green Communities Act to City Council for a vote before May. The Commission created a new subcommittee that will focus on spending priorities for GCA funds if the GCA is passed on this accelerated schedule. Members of the new subcommittee include Linda Scott Saunders, Michelle Dyer and John Moskal.
- Sam described how his recent report to City Council on the Energy Commission's progress and goals was very well received; several commission members in attendance. We will report again to the Council in six months.
- John reported that he continues to move forward on obtaining a baseline of energy usage by municipal buildings. Buildings we still need to obtain energy bills for include: Fire Department, Police buildings, Schools and Wastewater treatment buildings. The committee will work to complete this asap (before end of February if possible).
- Tom reported that he and Linda B. have been working to obtain records relating to the city's lighting ownership. This information is will help us to determine the

relative significance of lighting to energy concerns and will help inform future updates on the city's lighting ordinance.

- Gregg reported that we continue to be on track towards qualifying for the GCA and that the stretch code aspect is the main area in need of support from our consultant, Leiron Biton. Gregg and Leiron will conduct one more conference call before his term as a GCA technical assistance consultant ends.
- Sarah reported that she has successfully filled the Energy Manager position. Susan St. Pierre has been a planning consultant for the past 15 years. She has a background in geography and has worked on the Gloucester Harbor Plan. She will begin work on February 9, working on a 2 or 3-day schedule, most likely Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

Action Items:

- Michelle will check with US council of mayors to see if she can find out the status on the <35,000 grant application
- Michelle will contact Mike Berry to see if he is available on the morning of February 11 instead of the evening of that date.
- Sam will continue to work to identify Newton experts to speak at our first workshop.
- Sam will contact Meg Lusardi from DOER to see if she is willing to attend our Stretch Code Workshop in February. (Possibly Tom Reilly of BBRS, who writes the building code)
- Jill will finalize location for the first workshop and arrange for refreshments.
- Jill, Michelle and Sam will finalize a list of invitees for the Stretch Code Workshop and send invitation if Timberline does not host the event.
- Michelle and Jill will work up a 1-page handout for workshop attendees.
- Sarah Buck Garcia will send John Moskal copies of energy bills for municipal buildings that she has.
- John M. will contact Donna Compton to obtain any remaining energy bills needed for municipal buildings.
- Sarah will contact Linda Anderton to explore the possibility of presenting the stretch code to City Council before May
- Tom will contact National Grid and continue to look for city information related to street light ownership.
- Sam will review with Sarah the process of collaboration between the new energy manager and the energy commission.
- Michelle and Jill will provide Sarah information to include about the Energy Commissions activities on the city's new web site.