

Waltham Energy Action Committee

Thursday 7pm, Nov. 10, 2011

Public Meeting Room, Government Center, 119 School St.

Minutes

Members Present:

Kathy Randel, Leo Keightley, Andy Greene, Eileen Zubrowski, Janna Cohen-Rosenthal, Melissa Downs, Tony Dover

Others Present:

Jim Mneice

Emily Starr

Stacy DeGabriele

Michael Stella (Bentley Sr. on behalf of the Service Learning Center and Environment Faculty)

Dan d'Heilly (Homeworks Energy)

Scott Beggeberg (Homeworks Energy)

agenda in [blue](#)

Ms. Randel called the meeting to order at 7PM.

Welcome

Members and guests introduced themselves.

Review and accept minutes from previous meeting(s)

There was no action on drafts 2011-m10-d13 minutes draft.pdf, 2011-m09-d08 minutes draft1.pdf, and 2011-m08-d11 minutes draft.pdf for August, September, and October of this year.

[Presentation by Dan d'Heilly of Homeworks Energy](#)

Homeworks (Dan and Scott):

- Reviewed MOU
 - Would prefer we don't sign one with Next Step Living (NSL)
 - Homeworks would do education and outreach (Any home performance contractor (HPC) would do this anyway. There is no need for an MOU).
- Working models of MassSave companies:
 - IIC Independent Insulation Contractor
 - HPC Home Performance Contractors (NSL and Homeworks)
- Homeworks intends to be the vendor of quality
 - Intends to have a higher rate of audit to remedial action (more insulation, etc, not just light bulbs)
- Andy said we were looking to NSLs do do what we were not doing well. The situation, as it appears now that we know about Homeworks (and others), seems to be better with no MOU at all.
- Dan said Homeworks would like to know good Waltham outreach events to participate in.
- Scott: Homeworks has a program for landlords (thus addressing much of the Waltham market)

"Greenstamp" is another HPC in the area.

Discussion of the Next Step Living Memo of Understanding and Homeworks Energy

There was several minutes of discussion.

Possibly we should contact NSL and ask what they can do or would do without the MOU.

Brochure update and discussion - Janna

Janna just got the text last night .. no progress.

The Committee considered sending a draft to the Mayor along with the invitation to the Green Forum.

Forum Update - Melissa

Green Forum's 1st meeting will be on Jan. 31st at 7PM at the Paine Estate.

The Sustainability Subcommittee of the Chamber of Commerce may give us \$ for refreshments.

- We have to find out if we can accept this gift.

We should consider inviting the Mayor and Councilors.

Green Communities Update – Kathy

- A Roll Call for Stretch Code implementation was not done at the November 7 meeting of the Committee of the Whole. Steve tabled issue because he felt the measure didn't have sufficient votes.
- One Waltham Builder, who had said he was "on the fence" during the public speaking opportunity at the previous Council Meeting at which the measure was brought in to the Council, has since come out against it and has called all City Councilors. One of his concerns is expense for small builders.
- General concerns and points to address those concerns:

Costs to small businesses

- Learning how to use this effectively is a competitive advantage.
- Training is available.

Trying to sneak this through

- We met with the City Council in June and explained the Stretch Code and our plans for implementation (including timing of the implementation).
- In July we held an educational session for builders (50 people attended and there were no big objections at that meeting).

Affect on the Building Department

Why Now

- Access to grant \$ asap and implementation of the Energy Reduction Plan with \$900,000 in annual savings in 5 years.

Chamber of Commerce volunteer to go with Eileen to meetings?

no discussion

Hubwheels to Waltham?

no discussion

Volunteer to organize contact information and maintain relationships with non-member volunteers

no discussion

Volunteer to help with Facebook, WEAC webpage, Patch and other web-based forums

no discussion

Closing

Next Meeting – Thursday, December 8, 2011 - Public Meeting Room, Government Center

The committee adjourned at 9:00 PM.