



CITY OF DOVER

## ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting  
Meeting Location: City Council Chambers – 288 Central Ave, Dover, NH  
Meeting Date: **July 26, 2007**  
Meeting Time: **5:30 pm**

Members Present: Eric Steltzer, Eric Kelsey, Dona Layton, Brett Pasinella, Chris Parker, and Robin Estee

### **Welcome:**

Eric Steltzer called the meeting to order at 5:35 pm. Robin Estee was introduced as the newest member to the committee. Robin Estee volunteered to be the Secretary of the Committee.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

Dona Layton apologized for not having the minutes provided. There were no minutes approved.

### **Old Business:**

a. Waterfront Development Design – Eric Steltzer spoke that there are now design subcommittees being formed for both the park design and land use. Eric Steltzer suggested that one of our committee members attend the park design subcommittee meetings and possibly act in an ex-officio/non-voting capacity to advise the subcommittee on our purpose and our thoughts. The current chairperson for the design subcommittee is Steve Brewer who has not yet finalized the meeting schedule. Continued conversation regarding this topic consisted of brainstorming on ideas to present to the subcommittee with examples of LEEDS buildings and developments that have worked to expand the educational process. Dona Layton suggested photographs or tours be taken of the two most recent successful LEEDS and environmentally sound developments such as Liberty Mutual and the Portsmouth Library.

b. Master Plan – Chris Parker presented a draft handout from the Master Plan that pertained to the Energy recommendations from the Plan. The bullets that were presented would help promote sustainable living by promoting environmental sensitivity. These recommendations would help promote the creation of regulations. There was conversation about the possibility of creating two options for developers; if the developer wanted to continue with the traditional building plans, they would follow the traditional planning schedule; however, if a developer wanted to create an environmentally sensitive building, the planning board would assist in moving the project through the process more expeditiously, as an incentive to design a more environmentally friendly project. Additionally, the education component could be that Liberty Mutual, an insurance company who relies on profits, developed a LEEDS certified building. The plan is to also include the re-use of existing buildings and even new use of existing buildings to be more sensitive to the environment with incentives. There was additional conversation about how this process would be applied to residential buildings. Chris Parker suggested a compromise that if a building of 4 or more families or a large multi-family development, i.e. The Meadows, were to be created we could include those processes in this Plan. There is an economy of scale that bigger projects would be overall less expensive to implement. Other conversations included the street scape section of the Master Plan. This conversation included bike routes, bus pull-offs, raised crosswalks, trees and landscaping in developments, and sunlight use in neighborhoods. Eric Steltzer suggested looking into the Green Building



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Ordinance that Epping introduced and possibly taking that with some modifications such as to create a credit system so that if a developer did not want to comply they could make some type of payment to the Dover Energy Committee for the committee to then do some improvements in other locations. Chris Parker suggested this committee could help to draft recommendations into regulations. He is looking to this committee for assistance in background information, support and education. One suggestion to implement these recommendations is that the City wants this and we can facilitate the progress at the planning board level.

c. North End Fire Station – Chris Parker has seen the preliminary plans and the design is to replicate the feel of the Central Fire Station. The proposed building would be approximately 15,000 square feet. There are certain requirements that Liberty Mutual insisted on as part of the land exchange. There are height requirements and parking requirements. Eric Hagman, Deputy Fire Chief, is overseeing the new building. Eric Steltzer would be interested in having someone from this committee there to keep a dialogue going between the two committees.

d. Brainstorming ideas – Eric Steltzer suggested our first order of business should be a mission statement which would include the wording from the Council's formation of this committee of what we were tasked to complete. Dona Layton echoed other member's ideas that Advocacy and Education were key components. The two major topics that came from the brainstorming session are the Apple Harvest Day and work with the Municipality. There was conversation about setting up a booth at Apple Harvest Day, hopefully next to the Conservation Committee, and to have tool kits to hand out with information about conserving energy. The presence at Apple Harvest Day would be key in reaching the homeowners more than businesses and the municipality. Brett Pasinella suggested getting the NH Carbon Challenge to join with us at the booth. Dona Layton will contact the Chamber of Commerce and start the application for the space at Apple Harvest Day. Eric Steltzer will "chair" the Advocacy section of the brainstorming ideas.

### **Other Old Business:**

Eric Kelsey spoke on and passed out his proposed resolution to have the City of Dover be bicycle friendly. Chris Parker suggested taking our resolution to the Traffic Advisory Committee as a work in progress and obtain their input and suggestions and get their endorsement to bring this resolution to the City Council. If the TAC endorsed this resolution, Deputy Mayor Jason Hindle could sponsor the resolution at the City Council level rather than the "Mayor by Request". The TAC next meets on August 6<sup>th</sup>.

Eric Kelsey and Dona Layton then spoke on the Peak Oil Workshop. This workshop would be about a one and one half hour or two hours (1½ to 2) with John Carroll speaking. Jack Story of the Chamber of Commerce has no issue in promoting and looking to sponsor this workshop. Additionally, the Strafford Regional Planning was asked to co-sponsor this event as well as Kathleen Lewis of PSNH who would speak for about five (5) minutes. Dona Layton suggested that we initially target department heads, businesses, other cities and decision makers in Dover; if that went well we could hold subsequent workshops for the general public. There was talk



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about the difference in the topics of climate change and peak oil. Peak oil is not as well publicized as the changes in climate; however peak oil has more of an immediate impact on the economy. Peak oil is imminent and impacts the fabric of our lives that if the energy stops so does our economy. Other communities have created Peak Oil programs. A date was tentatively set of September 18<sup>th</sup> in the City Council Chambers (this is the third Tuesday) for this workshop.

**Other Business:** Eric Steltzer suggested getting a more formal press release out about our committee and the work we are doing. There is an EnergyStar challenge through the EPA that provides a press release. He also suggested updating the Council on our progress.

Eric Steltzer also spoke of Mike Russo a teacher at the Alternative School who looked to Eric for suggestions for an RFP on a new bus, so the word is out there.

The next meeting of the EAC will be on Wednesday, August 8<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 at a location to be announced as that is a City Council Meeting night. Topics to be covered at the next meeting include the City's website, Apple Harvest Day, Municipal Department checklists and Thad's presentation.

Motion made by Eric Steltzer, seconded by Eric Kelsey to adjourn – passed unanimously.  
Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.