

ENERGY COMMISSION MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: City Hall 2nd Floor Conference Room 288 Central Ave, Dover, NH 03820
Meeting Date: **Wednesday, August 17, 2016**
Meeting Time: **5:30 pm**

Members present: Chair Chris Keeley, Vice Chair Walter King, Jeff Chierepko, Grant Faustino (alternate), Laura Raineri, Rob Weir, and Staff Liaison Elena Piekut

Others present: Charlie Forcey, Durham Energy Committee Chairman and Scott Maslansky, The Jordan Institute

Members absent: Cyrus Esmaeli, John Whitcomb, City Council Liaison Deborah Thibodeaux

1. **Welcome**

Meeting Called to Order: 5:35 p.m. Chair Chris Keeley asked to hear item 6B after item 5A.

2. **Citizen's Forum**

No members of the public were present.

3. **Approval of July 20, 2016 Meeting Minutes**

Laura Raineri noted that she was not listed as being present at the meeting.

Motioned by Rob Weir to approve as amended and seconded by Walter King. Vote: UA

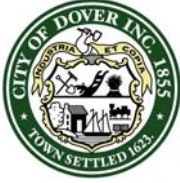
4. **Staff Update**

A. Ameresco Solar PV Project

Elena Piekut provided an update on the solar photovoltaic (PV) project in development with Ameresco, Inc. Since July, it was confirmed that the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) will require the City's relevant accounts to be full-service customers of Eversource (rather than sourcing electricity supply through a third party) before applying to be a net metering host. She also reported that most of the recent increase in the net metering cap was taken by existing hydroelectric dams, which was not expected. The plan is to be ready to apply after the next legislative effort to increase the cap again. Charlie Forcey suggested that the City may be able to apply for a single net metering project rather than group net metering, without becoming a full-service customer of Eversource before applying.

B. Stewardship Chapter Master Planning Update

Elena reported that the 2008 Energy Action Plan was shared with the consultant drafting the Stewardship Chapter and that he is in search of energy-related images to include in the chapter. Discussion ensued regarding various Energy Commission goals and how they fit into City processes, including master planning. Elena agreed to provide a copy of the current/proposed Capital Improvements Plan for the next meeting. Members are encouraged to attend a meeting of the Stewardship Chapter committee and Elena will provide the upcoming meeting dates.



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C. New Members

Elena introduced Grant Faustino as a new alternate member, who described his interests in energy as they relate to his graduate work at the University of New Hampshire. Another new alternate, Julie Fournier, was also just appointed to the Commission.

5. Old Business

A. C-PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy for Commercial properties) – Scott Maslasky, The Jordan Institute

Scott Maslansky provided a review of C-PACE and an update on progress around the state and specifically in Dover. Hanover adopted the program in May and is working on implementation. Lebanon is also now interested. Some issues regarding tax liens have been resolved and some are still pending the Attorney General's opinion. Scott has been working with Dover's Finance and IT departments to determine what tax collection software improvements will need to be made to accommodate the C-PACE program. Elena suggested that since it is not yet time to have a workshop with the City Council, Scott could draft an update for the Commission to communicate in a letter to the Council.

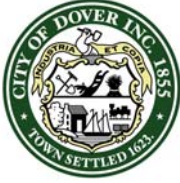
B. Energy Star Portfolio Manager/CTC Collaboration & Grant Possibilities

Walter King reported that although he submitted a grant application to the New England Grassroots Environment Fund (NEGEF) for this project, he will ask them to put it on hold pending a meeting in September with the Career Technical Center and an official vote by the Commission and possibly the approval of the City Manager. Walter also learned that other local towns have used a similar approach (a UNH intern) to implement their program. Laura Raineri will provide an update at the September meeting regarding her contact with the CTC.

C. Energy Action Plan Update

Rob Weir distributed a proposed outline for the new action plan/annual report and the group reviewed possible changes and additions. It was agreed that members would work on specific portions prior to the September meeting:

- Walter will address the Commission's mission statement
- Elena will draft sections on the solar initiative and update the history section to reflect work since 2008
- Laura will draft a section on C-PACE initiative
- Chris will draft a section on the Energy Start Portfolio Manager initiative/policy
- Rob will serve as the point of contact for organizing/editing the text.



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D. Local Energy Solutions Conference Planning

No discussion.

6. New Business

A. Dover Public Library “Button Up” Workshop Sponsorship – Walter King

Walter explained that the Commission has been asked to help sponsor (publicize) the Library’s September 27th “Button Up” Workshop. The group agreed to do so.

B. Recommendations from Durham Energy Committee – Walter King & Charlie Forcey, Durham Energy Committee Chair

Charlie Forcey provided an overview of the steps Durham has taken to create an energy policy that is integrated into the building permit and Planning Board review process. All Planning Board-reviewed projects are required to complete the “Energy Considerations Checklist” and meet with the Energy Commission, which then provides a report to the Planning Board. For smaller projects, the checklist is voluntary. Durham’s ordinance also refers to the “latest published” energy code rather than the 2009 state-wide code. Further, the Planning Board Chairman is a member of the Energy Committee and an Energy Committee representative sits on the technical review group. Charlie said Durham had included reducing the cost of efficiency as a goal in its Master Plan. Charlie noted that these steps have increased construction costs but also created a big increase in efficiency at a time when Durham was experiencing significant development investments. Jeff Chierepko noted that the Town of Epping may also have a more stringent energy code.

7. Call for Agenda Items

A review of the mission statement and draft sections of the action plan/report will be added to the September 21st agenda.

8. Adjourn

Laura Raineri moved to adjourn, seconded by Jeff Chierepko. Vote: UA.

Adjournment: 7:26 p.m.