



CITY OF DOVER

ENERGY COMMISSION – MINUTES

Meeting Type: **Regular Meeting**
Meeting Location: **2nd Floor Conference Room – City Hall, 288 Central Ave.**
Meeting Date: **Wednesday, September 19, 2018**
Meeting Time: **5:30 PM**

1. Welcome

Members present: Vice Chair Bill Baber, Mike Behrmann, Zak Koehler, Rob Weir, Walter Milliken (Alternate), Deborah Thibodeaux (Council Liaison).

Members absent: Chair Walter King, Julie Fournier, Otis Perry, Lisa Logel (Alternate)

Others present: Elena Piekut, Staff Liaison and Assistant City Planner; Rob Werner, Concord City Councilor

2. Citizen's Forum

None.

3. Sierra Club Ready for 100 Campaign – Discussion led by Mike Behrmann and Rob Werner, Concord City Councilor

Vice Chair Bill Baber asked that the agenda be reordered to accommodate guest Rob Werner of Concord, who serves as both a City Councilor and on the Energy and Environment Advisory Committee. Mr. Werner provided an overview of the process by which Concord adopted the aspirational goal of a 100% renewable energy community by 2050. He explained that the resolution was adopted by a unanimous vote in July and explained the process of education and refinement that led to the unanimous vote. He said that for the next year, the committee will work on writing its strategic plan.

Bill Baber asked for clarification on what the Council approved in its resolution and Mr. Werner explained that the goal is to use 100% renewable sources of electricity by 2030 and 100% renewable sources of all fuels by 2050. He said the resolution established a stakeholder committee and requires the creation of a strategic plan. Walter Milliken asked for clarification that the resolution only binds the City to a process, not an outcome, and Mr. Werner confirmed that it does. Mike Behrmann said that the Energy Commission is just beginning to consider setting this goal, and Councilor Thibodeaux said she believes the Council would be open to it, but will definitely need to see a plan. Mr. Werner said that Concord is also looking at zoning changes, has been using the Sierra Club like a consultant on the topic, and has engaged the business community. He said there was a fear that the resolution was a mandate and that this initiative would brand Concord poorly. Bill Baber expressed his understanding that passing the resolution worked because the goal was aspirational, and a process was established that involves the citizens.

Discussion continued concerning the scope of the community's goals, commercial solar siting, energy efficiency, other New Hampshire communities that have made the same commitment,

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public engagement, and the role of the market and innovation in helping achieve this goal over the next 30 years. Zak Koehler asked Mr. Werner to send the resolution to the Commission for review.

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes of August 15, 2018

Zak Koehler moved to approve the minutes of August 15, 2018 as written. Mike Behrmann seconded. Vote: 4-0-1 with Bill Baber abstaining.

5. Staff Updates

A. Dover High School Solar Array & Children’s Museum/Indoor Pool Solar Array

Elena Piekut provided a brief update that City staff is nearing an executed power purchase agreement (PPA) with Revision Energy for these two projects and the High School project is still expected to be underway this fall. The panels for the High School have been ordered.

B. Measuring Carbon and Nitrogen Footprints

Elena Piekut provided a brief update that the final report has not yet been released as UNH Sustainability Fellow Jackson Kaspari has continued to communicate with others in the field and further refine the report despite the fellowship term having ended. Elena will write an Executive Summary before it is published.

6. Old Business

A. Master Plan Actions – Elena Piekut

Elena Piekut referred to the list of Master Plan actions that were identified as responsibilities of the Energy Commission and described how three members had provided priority rankings since the previous meeting. Vice Chair Bill Baber asked that Elena resend the items to the Commission with a request that each member provide a ranking for each of the two Master Plan chapters.

B. 2009 IECC

Elena Piekut provided an email from the Building Official detailing the section of the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code referred to by Stephen Weglarz, of the Durham Energy Committee and Advanced Building Analysis, at the previous month’s meeting. The Building Official explained that Dover does comply with this section by conducting visual insulation inspections and does not go beyond by requiring blower door testing as recommended by Mr.



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Weglarz. She explained that Inspection Services is reluctant to adopt codes beyond the state adopted codes due to the unintended consequences they have witnessed in other municipalities.

Discussion ensued regarding the costs saved through increased efficiency and the Commission's interest in pursuing the topic. Assistant Planner Piekut suggested that the Commission research its options and explained that there would be two different processes whether they pursued requiring additional testing under the current code or adopting a different code entirely.

7. Member Comments

Rob Weir noted that the November meeting would fall on the day before Thanksgiving, and Vice Chair Bill Baber suggested that the Commission not hold a meeting in November.

Vice Chair Bill Baber asked the Commission if they would support sending a letter of thanks to the Mayor and City Council for their leadership in the effort to override the Governor's veto of SB 446, relative to net metering, and ask for their continued support. Zak Koehler made a motion to send the letter as suggested. Walter Milliken seconded. Vote: U/A.

Mike Behrmann suggested that the Commission look at how energy cost savings from solar installations are applied. Vice Chair Bill Baber said this should be added as a goal for the Commission.

Assistant City Planner Elena Piekut told the Commission that the annual Land Use Board Meet & Greet would likely fall on the second Tuesday in January, the eighth.

Mike Behrmann and Bill Baber brought up the Commission's presence at Apple Harvest Day and the possibility of involving Drive Electric. Bill suggested Mike contact an organization that may have space for a car and suggested that members offer to help staff the Planning Department's booth.

8. Call for Agenda Items

None.

9. Adjourn

Zak Koehler moved to adjourn at 7:02 p.m. Walter Milliken seconded. Vote: U/A.