

Conservation Commission Energy Committee Meeting

Thursday April 26, 2018

Human Services Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Town Hall

In attendance: Urling Searle, Steve Hall, Robert Brady, Rusty Parker, Skip Parker (9:15 a.m.)

Also in attendance: Patricia Sesto, Director and Sarah Nahabedian, Conservation Resource Manager

1. **Call to order-** 9:05am by Patricia Sesto
2. **Welcome new participants-** no new members were present.
3. **Approval of Minutes**
 - a. March 28, 2018- accepted unanimously
 - b. April 19, 2018- accepted unanimously
4. **Strategic Energy Planning**
 - a. Report on stakeholder engagement-
 - i. Bob reached out to Jill Oberlander from BET.
 1. Pat reported she provided dates/times/commitment requirements for meetings and that Jill will reach out to other BET members to see if there is interest in joining this committee.
 - ii. Pat met with Amy Siebert and explained changes with Eversource in terms of incentives and writing a SEMP for the Town. Amy reached out to Al Monelli and Dan Watson.
 1. When meeting with Al and Dan, this committee would like them to join this meeting every two weeks, or sit with us so we hear their concerns/issues.
 - iii. Urling reached out to Peter Malkin and will be seeing him later today. **Will report back to group on that meeting.**
 - iv. Steve emailed Andrew Winston (andrew@eco-strategies.com)- global consultant about sustainability and energy efficiency, pictured him in more of an advisory role, would be a great marketing tool. **Bob to send Sarah Andrew Winston's contact information.**
 - v. Urling brought up discussion about garden club contacts and to bring them into the discussion. Steve and Rusty recommended they be brought in later. At the moment to focus on businesses.
 1. Garden Education Center energy use as possible Town success story.
 - vi. Pater Bernstein (BoE Chairman)- Bob recommended including in addition to Dan Watson.
 - vii. Pat recommended the Committee have a representation from housing market:
 1. Anthony Johnson- Housing Authority
 2. Bakery (Bimbo) in Byram- (Rusty) also Armstrong Court next door
 3. Construction representative? (Pat)- Steve knows Rich Granoff (architect in Greenwich)
 - a. **Pat-Research local construction representatives**

4. Someone from the Town building department (Rusty)- they follow State building codes, and codes set by the Town.
 5. Bob brought up POCD and to include regulations for public and private buildings in terms of energy efficiency.
- viii. Rusty focused Committee to 3 Town buildings and then go out to residential.
- b. Review Goals and Objectives outline –
- i. (Pat) discussed new goal- “implementing the plan”, her interest in pulling in representatives from residential and commercial, that those voices will be important when implementing the public component.
 - ii. Funding for the HS energy audit- important to have a BET member at the table to participate and strategize funding.
 - iii. Skip asked about progression of Town buildings and commercial buildings- are they happening in series (one after the other) or in parallel? Pat stated they are happening in series to a point, for Town to “lead by example”.
 - iv. **Steve and Skip to find out about commercial energy usage in Town from Eversource**
 - v. Add an Objective for SEMP: three phase-two energy audits a year. Begin with highest energy users in Town (after Town Hall, HS, and WWTP).
 - vi. Steve voice support for service contracting agreements. Companies would produce a phase 1 audit as part of their proposals, then put out an RFP, let the contractors go out and produce a proposal for phase 2 audit.
 - vii. **Steve to produce bubble diagram for how service contracting works for educational purposes.**
 - viii. Bob recommended bringing in First Selectman to one of our meetings to educate on this plan. Pat will seek a meeting with Mr. Tesei to advise him of the committee’s progress.
 - ix. Pat advocated for increasing stakeholders at the table and having presentations of pieces of information that the diverse group of stakeholders may need. The intent is to have members with broad knowledge to enable each of us to defend and understand the elements of the plan.
 - x. Rusty had concerns that the order of the outline might confuse people into thinking that the order the goals/objectives/supporting tasks indicates prioritization and/or the order which they will be addressed. Pat stated that the goals/objectives could be moved around to not confuse readers and that a paragraph explaining the supporting tasks might help clarify any confusion. Each goal and its objectives stand alongside the others; there is not intended hierarchy.
- c. Identification of desired presentation, needed information:
- i. Green Bank- Anthony Clark (finds a piece of the total money, educational tool)
 - ii. Green Works Lending – Jessica Bailey
 - iii. Metris - Steve recommended
 - iv. ESCO-type companies (like Steven Winter Associates)- how the process works for a phase 1 audit, then going out to bid on doing a phase 2 audit.
 - v. Eversource Substation discussion- Rusty reported that P. Tesei had announced that it is going through. Regardless, we should use this as an educational tool to motivate the public to reduce demand and energy use.

- vi. Find other town success stories: Wilton? Fairfield? Bedford? Newtown? New Haven? Bridgeport? Ron Araujo from Eversource- **Pat to contact and ask Ron about best CT success stories.**
- vii. With complementary topics, Pat suggested the committee sponsor an evening presentation on funding sources, success stories, and ESCO-type companies. The public can benefit from this information as this committee advances its knowledge.

5. Action items:

- a. Urling reached out to Peter Malkin and will be seeing him later today. Will report back to group on that meeting.
 - b. Bob to send Sarah Andrew Winston's contact information. (completed)
 - c. Pat-Research local construction representatives
 - d. Steve and Skip to find out if information regarding commercial energy usage in Town is available from Eversource
 - e. For educational purposes, Steve will produce and circulated a bubble diagram depicting how service contracting works
 - f. Pat to contact and ask Ron Araujo regarding best CT case studies.
 - g. Pat to talk with Peter Tesei to update on SEMP
 - h. Next meeting: Pat will work on getting Dan and Al here for next meeting to address municipal approach and have more meaningful discussions and what their concerns are. It will also be helpful to know what energy saving measures have already been implemented.
6. **Next meeting-** May 10th, 2018 at 9:00am
7. **Adjourn-** 10:23am