

CONCORD Energy and Environment Committee

Wednesday, October 3, 2018

7:00 PM

City Hall

Minutes

In Attendance: Charles Willing, Evan Mulholland, Rich Maher, Dave Brown, Kelsey Sullivan, Dot Currier, Cathy Kilday, Zach Jonas, Rob Werner, Henry Herndon, Jerry Eaton, John Gage, and Brian Buckley.

7:05 p.m.: Rob called the meeting to order. Introductions made.

1. Status of Solar Ordinance

Chuck updated the Committee regarding the progress made in developing a solar ordinance. Meetings were held with City staff to discuss the options and to schedule the public listening sessions. The public sessions will be Oct 27 at 10:00 am at Beaver Meadow, and on 10/29 at 6:00 pm at City Council chambers. The committee discussed the pros and cons of limiting utility scale solar to locations currently near 3-phase power lines. The committee was generally in favor of encouraging more solar energy in the City, and to have the City purchase some or all of the electric output, as appropriate. A change to the ordinance will go before the Planning Board, and then the City Council, with a vote expected sometime early in 2019.

2. Municipal Ad Hoc Solar Project Committee

Rob discussed the ongoing work of the Ad Hoc Solar committee. Going forward, the CEEC will be the lead advisory committee on all proposed solar projects on municipal property. A RFP to develop solar on several city properties will be released in January 2019. Discussion ensued regarding net-metering and the cap.

3. Sub Committee Reports.

- a. Energy Efficiency and Water. Update from Brian. Discussion ensued regarding LED streetlights. A motion was made, seconded, and adopted by the Committee to urge the City to seek a favorable price arrangement with Unitil to allow for the replacement of the current fixtures with LED lights. This arrangement would be either a new tariff as Manchester now has, or a special contract with Unitil. Note Docket DE 13-288 at the PUC in which Manchester and Eversource arranged a new streetlight tariff. Also discussed was a Building Energy Rating and Disclosure Ordinance which would create a

market for emergency efficiency through transparency and disclosure. Several NE cities, such as Portland, have adopted a similar ordinance.

- b. Transportation. Evan discussed two initiatives: encouraging the two local school districts to apply for VW grants to electrify their school bus fleets; and encouraging Concord Hospital to install EV chargers. Discussion ensued regarding the CAT busses and Chuck's conversation with City staff regarding solar and EV-ready parking garages and lots.
- c. Organizing and Outreach. Zach and Dave discussed the make-up of the stakeholder committee and a tentative schedule. Outreach to city residents was also touched upon.
- d. Strategic Planning. First meeting will be at Chuck's office at RYP at 9:00 am on Friday Oct. 12.

4. Other business:

Rob related his experience at the climate conference in SF, CA. Rob also mentioned his efforts to recruit a member of the Chamber of Commerce to be on the CEEC.

It was agreed that the CEEC should be part of Leadership Greater Concord's Sustainability Day. Rob will work on this.

Henry mentioned the Nov. 16 Local Energy Solutions Conference sponsored by NHSEA.

Evan mentioned the Oct 19 free Complete Streets Conference at NHDES on 10/19. Free. Concord's Main Street will be featured.

Rob mentioned the Revision Energy and LCV joint endeavor to increase solar installs in the City and surrounding towns.

John Gage announced that the Bi-Partisan Climate Solutions Caucus in DC welcomed its' 44th pair of Representatives.

Evan announced his resignation from the CEEC as he has accepted an environmental attorney position with MCEA in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Next meeting is set for November 7 at 7:00 pm

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm