

ANN ARBOR ENERGY COMMISSION – MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

September 9, 2008
City Hall – City Council Chambers, 2nd Floor
5:30 - 7:30 pm

AGENDA

- I. Approval of Minutes
- II. Public Input
- III. Energy Report – Energy News from the Energy Office and Commission Members
- IV. DDA Energy Saving Grant Program – Dave Konkle

OLD BUSINESS

- V. State Legislative Update – Robert Nelson
- VI. LSA Theme Semester Update – Andrew Fileti
- VII. Energy Plan Sub-Committee Update
- VIII. Energy Conservation and Renewables Finance Sub-Committee Update
- IX. DTE Rate Case Update
- X. 5000 Solar Roofs Project Update
- XI. Solar America Cities Update
- XII. Inputs on Downtown Development

NEW BUSINESS

- XIII. 1Sky Campaign – www.1sky.org
- XIV. Homegrown Festival (Sept. 13)
- XV. MREP Event Planning (Oct. 13)
- XVI. Other Business / Public Input – Limited to 10 minutes maximum
- XVII. Adjourn

Visit www.a2gov.org/energy/ to learn more about Ann Arbor's Energy Programs

Shown Live on CTN Channel 16 – Wednesday 8/13 at 10:00 am and Sunday 8/17 at 2:00 pm

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Ann Arbor Energy Commission – Meeting Minutes

August 12, 2008

2nd Floor Council Chambers

City Hall 5:30-7:30 PM

Attendees: Robert Black – Commission Chair, Wayne Appleyard, Jason Bing, Mike Delaney, Chuck Hookham, Dina Kurz, Stephen Miller, Bill Verge, David Wright

Staff: Andrew Brix, James Peters

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from July were approved.

Public Input – There was no public input.

Energy News

Energy Office Updates

- The DDA has announced an Energy Saving Grant Program for downtown businesses and buildings. Applications are available by calling 994-6697 and are due September 30.
- In conjunction with Rebuild Washtenaw, the Energy Office is performing lighting audits at two city facilities: Cobblestone Barn and the Senior Center.
- Stantec has completed their study of the feasibility of reinstalling hydroelectric generating equipment at Argo and Geddes dams. For an estimated cost of \$4.35 million each, Argo and Geddes could produce an estimated 2,000 MWh and 3,350 MWh, respectively.
- Andrew Brix reported that the UA's "Green Trailer" for training members on renewable energy technologies was at the Live Street Party in downtown Ann Arbor.

Robert Black reported a newspaper article that showed more people taking trains and fewer driving this year.

Jason Bing noted that a Burns Park Green Energy Group has formed. Jason also mentioned two upcoming events: the Solar Tour on October 4 and the Remodel Green conference October 31 – November 1.

Renewable Energy and Carbon Reduction Program

Jim Moran and Chris Martin presented two energy efficiency technologies and an outline of a program for certifying carbon offset credits from city programs, allowing them to be sold on the international carbon market. Commissioners expressed concern over giving up the rights to the city's emissions reductions. It may be possible for sales of carbon offsets to make the difference in being able to fund some projects, but there does not appear to be a pressing need at this time.

Old Business

Energy Plan: Robert Black and Andrew Brix updated the Commission on progress with the new Energy Plan, including sample formats for the web. Dina Kurz suggested providing

organizations with action steps, including case studies or testimonials from other organizations.

Finance Subcommittee: Andrew Brix met recently with an employee of GMAC Financial who is interested in facilitating some of the Energy Office's work with the financial industry.

State Legislative Update: James Peters reported that there has been little activity in Lansing, and that a conference committee hearing on the RPS bills is scheduled for August 20. Great Lakes Renewable Energy Association is lobbying for the RPS legislation to be separated from other energy bills.

Support for H.B. 5218: David Wright noted that hearings on H.B. 5218 ("Renewable Energy Payments") are scheduled for September in the House Energy Committee.

DTE Rate Case: David Wright presented an update on the DTE Rate Case intervention, including an estimated price for a long-term fixed-price renewable energy tariff of \$0.122463/kWh. David indicated that the MPSC may ask DTE to negotiate such a rate.

5,000 Solar Roofs: Andrew Brix indicated that new data was available on the city's website with estimates for system size, annual production and savings. Jason Bing suggested the need for more money or more marketing to advance this effort. Robert Black recommended presenting to local realtors (Jason Bing and Wayne Appleyard volunteered to prepare a presentation.)

Solar America Cities: Andrew Brix noted that eight of nine Go Solar Ann Arbor applications were approved by the Great Lakes Renewable Energy Association. Also, the Farmers Market Solar project is close to completion, with outstanding ground fault and interconnection issues to be resolved. Finally, the Clean Energy Coalition has solar focus groups planned for August 26 and 27.

Inputs on Downtown Development: Robert Black recapped efforts-to-date and a suggestion was made to develop an Energy Impact Statement to be used as part of the site plan review process

New Business

Solar Access Laws: Robert Black provided examples of solar access laws in other parts of the country and emphasized the impact of the 601 Forest project.

1Sky and Climate Communities: Andrew Brix described two organizations, Climate Communities and 1Sky that are working at the federal level to support global warming legislation. The Commission opposed joining Climate Communities due to the cost of membership, and will consider endorsing the 1Sky platform in September.

LSA Energy Theme Semester: Andrew Brix presented the possibility of a video competition, either at the Michigan Theater or YouTube scale. The question of timeframe was raised and it was pointed out that Architecture 2030 held some competitions with a two-day turnaround.

Other Business

Stephen Miller applauded UM's hiring of Dr. Ian Hiskens as a Professor of Electrical Engineering.

Stephen Miller asked why the city had not gone ahead with a biodigester at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Andrew Brix described the space constraints on site.

Jason Bing asked about expanding the Energy Commission and/or finding an intern to handle the high workload. Jason also noted that there would be solar presentations at the upcoming Ypsilanti Heritage Festival.

Public Input – There was no public input.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm