

ANN ARBOR ENERGY COMMISSION – MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

WEDNESDAY

November 12, 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. Millage Basics – Mary Fales
Discussion: How to Prioritize Programs?**
- V. Burns Park Green Update – Nate Ayers**
- VI. UM Student Project Update**

OLD BUSINESS

- VII. State Legislative Update – James Peters**
- VIII. Energy Plan Sub-Committee Update – and Outreach Plan Discussion**
- IX. Energy Conservation and Renewables Finance Sub-Committee Update**
- X. DTE Rate Case Update**
- XI. 5000 Solar Roofs Project Update**
- XII. Solar America Cities Update**
- XIII. Inputs on Downtown Development**

NEW BUSINESS

- XIV. Transportation Forum Planning**
- XV. Other Business / Public Input – Limited to 10 minutes maximum**
- XVI. Adjourn**

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

Shown Live on CTN Channel 16 – Replays Thursday 11/13 at 10:00 a.m. and Sunday 11/16 at 2:00 p.m.

CITY OF ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

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Ann Arbor Energy Commission – Meeting Minutes

October 14, 2008

2nd Floor Council Chambers

City Hall 5:30-7:30 PM

Attendees: Robert Black – Commission Chair, Wayne Appleyard, Jason Bing, Mike Delaney, Fulter Hong, Dina Kurz, Josh Long, Bill Verge, John Hieftje – Mayor

Staff: Andrew Brix, James Peters

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from September were approved.

Public Input – Justin Schott of Burns Park Green Energy Association introduced himself and announced that their website was now online at www.burnsparkgreen.com.

Energy News

Energy Office Updates

- Andrew Brix spoke on the city's solar programs at a High Performance Green Building conference in Livonia on September 25.
- An MREP Solar Committee meeting is scheduled for October 13 at the Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum.
- The Michigan Sustainable Energy Coalition is holding a conference on the new state energy legislation October 21-22.
- A TechKnow Forum on Plug-in Hybrids and the Smart Grid will be at the Power Center on October 23.

Jason Bing reminded commissioners and the audience about the Remodel Green conference October 31 – November 1, and also that Recycle Ann Arbor would be offering free energy audits for 100 area homes.

Josh Long reported that his Energy Coordinator position at Washtenaw County is being eliminated due to county-wide budget difficulties. Robert Black suggested that commissioners and others write the county in support of keeping the position.

Bill Verge announced the installation of a concentrating solar thermal tracking array on UM's central power plant. The 40 kW system will preheat water used at the plant.

Robert Black presented a New York Times article on the influx of funding into the private energy sector and asked that community members consider contributing to the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation's Energy Fund.

Josh Long and Jason Bing commented in support of the proposed solar installation at Ypsilanti's city hall that would be in front of Ypsilanti's Historic District Commission later that evening.

Planet Blue

Kris Kolevar and Brian Morgan from UM's Planet Blue initiative presented on the program to improve the energy efficiency of university buildings, working on both technological and behavior change aspects of energy use. They noted that using digital controls and environmental management systems was what tied the technology and behavior pieces together and allowed them to promote "active engagement." Projects can be funded with paybacks up to 8 years.

When asked about prioritization and relative paybacks, they stated that adjusting heating and cooling schedules offered the best paybacks, with reductions in electricity use and water use following. It is too soon to know the impact of the education and outreach components of Planet Blue.

Transportation Plan Update

Eli Cooper, the city's Transportation Program Manager, presented recent developments in transportation (and impacts on energy use), focusing on three areas: (1) active transportation, (2) land use planning, and (3) transit system evolution. One of the significant changes since the last transportation plan is the strong growth of UM and its health system, which are driving employment growth in Ann Arbor. Eli announced a press event on October 20, 1:30pm at City Hall, and offered that the Transportation Plan Update would likely go to the Planning Commission and City Council in January and February 2009.

Old Business

State Legislative Update: Jennifer Alvarado, Executive Director of the Great Lakes Renewable Energy Association, presented an update on recently passed SB 213 (now Public Act 295). Jennifer explained how a seven page bill had expanded to 124 pages and suggested that while the bill is not ideal, it does make a commitment to 10% clean energy by 2015. Jennifer also noted that the integrated resource plan requirements of the bill provide a good opportunity to make comments to the MPSC and influence how the requirements are implemented.

Energy Plan Update: Robert Black provided a brief update and reminded the commission of the intention to complete the plan by year-end.

Finance Subcommittee: Andrew Brix explained that proposed uses of millage or other financing would require state enabling legislation, and that Mary Fales of the City Attorney's office would present on millage procedures at the November meeting.

DTE Rate Case: Andrew Brix reported that the Ecology Center and City filed their initial brief on the preceding Friday.

5000 Solar Roofs: 40-plus additional installations are expected this year through the Go Solar Ann Arbor program.

Solar America Cities: Andrew Brix noted upcoming feasibility studies at Washtenaw County facilities, the possibility of an aggregate neighborhood solar purchase, and a recent meeting with the city's Office of Emergency Management to explore solar opportunities.

Inputs on Downtown Development: Robert Black asked about making the new Courts-Police building solar ready. Jason Bing questioned the energy effectiveness of rebuilding the downtown library branch, rather than renovating. Andrew Brix reported that 47 applications had been accepted for downtown energy audits through the DDA grant program, with audits to be completed by January or February.

New Business

Resolution to Replace Two Coal Plants with Conservation and Renewables: Robert Black introduced a new resolution. Wayne Appleyard suggested that something similar to the University of Kassel study (showing how 100% renewables could work) would be important to the argument. Mike Delaney noted that DTE was in the process of studying how to integrate larger quantities of renewable energy into its grid.

Public Input – There was no additional public input or other business.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm