

HAMDEN ENERGY USE & CLIMATE CHANGE COMMISSION

(via Zoom/Telephonically)
**Minutes of a Regular Meeting of
August 10, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.**

A regular meeting of the Hamden Energy Use and Climate Change Commission took place on Monday, August 10, via Zoom/telephonically.

Attending: Lawrence Rosenthal, chair; Alison DeMaio; Henry Dynia; Susan Kulis; Martin Mador; Brendan Smith; and Kathleen Schomaker, Energy Efficiency Coordinator. **Absent:** David Cooper. **Also in attendance:** Patrice LeMoine, Clerk for the Commission.

Call to Order: Mr. Rosenthal called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. Roll Call was held, and it was noted that a quorum was present. Mr. Rosenthal welcomed the commission's new member, Henry Dynia.

Approval of minutes of the meeting: Mr. Rosenthal requested a **motion** to approve the minutes of the July meeting. Mr. Smith motioned to approve the minutes of the July 13, 2020 meeting as amended. Ms. Kulis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Public comment of agenda items: No one present, nothing to note.

Energy Efficiency Coordinator's Report: Ms. Schomaker mentioned that a final draft of the EVSE is under review and approval. We should provide a photo of the EV readiness for the agreement.

She added that the UI street lights project will be presented to the legislative council on August 31. Public comments need to be submitted at least one hour prior to the meeting.

NORESCO – The energy audit is up-to-date and will be on the legislative council's agenda on August 31.

Update on the EV exhibit at Miller Library in September. The library director, Melissa Canham-Clyne contacted Ms. Schomaker to share her interest to working with the EUCC and holding energy events in the parking lot outside of the Miller Library. The next electric vehicle event is September 26 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Everyone on the commission agreed to volunteer at the event. A discussion was held regarding the funds that the town set aside

for the EUCC's energy projects. There should be \$36,000 available. Ms. Schomaker agreed to confirm the funds available.

Old Business:

- a. Green Awards Program Update/b. Business e-Blast Mailing – Mr. Smith and Ms. Kulis provided an updated report. Mr. Smith said Dale Kroop is planning to send out an email blast in the next week. We are interested to see what responses we will receive, especially during this pandemic. A further discussion was held regarding the number of organizations and whether the pandemic will affect hearing from all qualified companies that are in the community. Mr. Smith established an email address. The address is Hamden.EUCC@gmail.com.

Ms. Kulis and Mr. Smith will go over the timing of the announcement and then a follow-up mailing and a survey.

- c. EVSE Charger Plan program – Messrs. Rosenthal and Smith remitted a four-page document of the questions that were collected via email from everyone. The questions were arrived from the meeting held last month with Juice Bar. Ms. Schomaker noted the questions are very useful and helpful and we should review them. They determined the work that EUCC would like to focus on is software and hardware with Juice Bar. They will involve the collection of data software issues and the cost of hardware. The above will help us determine a budget, equipment, installation, and maintenance. With all that said, the commissioners agreed that there is a lot of work ahead of us. Ms. Schomaker said the readiness study can assist us with a few of the questions presented this evening.

Further discussion was held regarding the reliability of the electric vehicles and then the availability of EV chargers being available in the area and charging stations throughout the state. The importance of various development for the electrical infrastructure will play a large role in Hamden.

New Business:

- a. Climate Change Academic Study – Ms. Kulis shared with Mr. Rosenthal a suggestion for an academic study regarding climate change to be added to the school's curriculum. It was agreed that this would be a great idea and pending the COVID pandemic, we will look to contact Tracey Stockwell at Hamden public schools, and perhaps Patricia Gillespie at Sustainable Connecticut to bring further awareness to the youths in the school system.

Ms. Kulis held a discussion regarding biochar, and the benefits of using this charcoal-like substance and where it reduces the contamination in our soil.

- b. Assembling a Commissioner's Group to Develop a Plan – postponed this agenda item to the next meeting.

Adjournment:

Mr. Rosenthal requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Smith motioned to adjourn at 8:42 p.m. and was seconded by Ms. DeMaio. The motion passed unanimously.

Next meeting: September 14, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

s/ Patrice A. LeMoine

Clerk for the Hamden Energy Use and
Climate Change Commission