

ENERGY USE & CLIMATE CHANGE COMMISSION
MEETING
April 16, 2012
7:00 PM
MAIN FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
HAMDEN GOVERNMENT CENTER
2750 DIXWELL AVENUE
HAMDEN

Commissioners in attendance: Frank Gasparro, Chairman
Frederick Schramm, Vice Chairman
Dave Bruhn
David Cooper
Martin Mador
Amy Sowitcky
Giovanni Zinn

Others in attendance: Chris Marchand
Peggy Craft, Commission Clerk

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Gasparro called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM.

APPROVAL OF JANUARY MINUTES

Chairman Gasparro asked if there were any additions, deletions or corrections to the Minutes of the March 26, 2012 meeting. Commissioner Schramm noted that CEFIA was incorrectly identified as SOFIA. He also asked that *heating oil* be added to his comments regarding placing a tax on oil. There were no further corrections and Chairman Gasparro called for a motion to approve the Minutes as amended. **Commissioner Schramm motioned to approve the Minutes of the March 26, 2012 Meeting as amended. Commissioner Cooper seconded the motion that passed unanimously.**

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business to come be for the Commission.

NEW BUSINESS

There was a discussion regarding Earth Day and the Commission's display at this event. The Commissioners discussed who would be there and what their table's display and activities would be. Mr. Cooper and Mr. Schramm discussed what they would be bringing to the event and the activities they would conduct.

Mr. Gasparro said he has the clean energy sign up forms. He will bring all the materials to Earth Day at 9:30 AM. He said it would be good if each of the Commissioners could man the table for an hour. Mr. Cooper said he would be there all day.

Mr. Schramm displayed what will be included in the display. Mr. Schramm said he would be there most of the day. Mr. Bruhn and Mr. Mador will also be there. Mr. Marchand will be there in the morning. Mr. Zinn is unable to attend.

There was a discussion regarding Mr. Gasparro's activities with his students on Earth Day.

Next, there was a discussion regarding the problems with signing up for clean energy on the web site. Mr. Gasparro has created a new sheet for sign ups. He has a box of CFL bulbs for signups.

Mr. Marchand discussed an e-mail he received from Sherry Borrelli regarding revamping the rewards and incentives for clean energy. They would like us to have a forum to inform Hamden area residents about this. The Commissioners discussed this request.

There was further discussion regarding a raffle, a quiz and sign ups for clean energy at Earth Day.

Mr. Bruhn discussed offering a clean energy audit as an incentive for people to sign up for clean energy at Earth Day. There was a discussion regarding the money available to the Commission to use for these audits. It was suggested that if a survey were filled out, the resident would receive a free energy audit. Mr. Marchand explained that UI might not approve using the money that we received from them as a rebate for people signing up for an energy audit. He added that they already have a program in place. Mr. Marchand will speak with Chris Ellert at UI regarding this. Mr. Bruhn discussed questions that could be included on the suggested survey. There was a lengthy discussion regarding what would be included in the survey, how it would be collected, etc. Mr. Marchand will find out tomorrow if UI will allow this use of the money. Mr. Marchand asked what "Plan B" would be. Mr. Bruhn suggested that if a person signs up for clean energy then they would receive a pack of bulbs.

Ms. Sowitcky distributed a survey to be handed out at Earth Day regarding the fall Energy Use Forum.

Mr. Schramm asked how many people would be at Earth Day. Mr. Gasparro said it is difficult to estimate. He added that two years ago there were 40 people in the raffle.

There was a discussion regarding income guidelines for UI providing free energy audits.

Mr. Marchand will e-mail the pdf defining the UI guidelines for free audits. Copies of the guidelines can be given out at Earth Day.

There was further discussion regarding the energy audit incentive at Earth Day.

There was a discussion regarding ZREC and LREC systems. Mr. Marchand will look into the Town securing an LREC system without going out for an RFP. It was noted that the ZREC and LREC programs are something that Power Point should be handling. Mr. Marchand will look into this.

There was further discussion regarding this topic.

There was a discussion regarding Power Point.

Mr. Schramm asked about a Chevy Volt for Earth Day. Mr. Mador has spoken with Partyka Chevrolet. He said if there is a car available they will supply one. Mr. Schramm will choose a parade sign to bring to Earth Day.

Mr. Marchand discussed the sign and solar compactor that have been installed at Bassett Park. He said there would be a ribbon cutting for these installations on Opening Day of Hamden Fathers Baseball in two weeks. There was a discussion regarding who will be there and the activities that will take place. Mr. Gasparro said it

might be better to do this on another day due to the very busy activities at the park. Mr. Marchand explained where the sign is. It was suggested that the Mayor explain the energy saving devices at Bassett Park on Opening Day. Mr. Marchand will look into the timing of events on that day. It was also suggested that the Mayor introduce the Commissioners

Mr. Mador said Hamden has been asked to host a New Haven Regional Workshop. He will find out more information regarding this. He said we would host it but the State would be handling the program. This is to teach the Towns incentives for getting clean energy signups. This will be held in early June in the evening. There was a discussion regarding this workshop.

ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business to come before the Commission, and Chairman Gasparro called for a motion to adjourn. **Mr. Mador motioned for adjournment; Mr. Bruhn seconded the motion that passed unanimously.** Chairman Gasparro adjourned the meeting at 8:32 PM.

Submitted by _____
Peggy Craft, Commission Clerk