

**ENERGY USE & CLIMATE CHANGE COMMISSION
MEETING**

**JANUARY 27, 2014
7:00 PM**

**MAIN FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
HAMDEN GOVERNMENT CENTER
2750 DIXWELL AVENUE
HAMDEN**

Commissioners in attendance: Frank Gasparro, Chairman
David Cooper
Brian Lier
Amy Sowitcky

Others in attendance: Sherrie Borrelli, United Illuminating
Will Fogel, next step living
Chris Marchand
Peggy Craft, Commission Clerk

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Gasparro called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM.

MINUTES

Commissioner Sowitcky motioned to accept the Minutes of the December 2013 meeting as presented. Commission Cooper seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

It was noted that Solarize Connecticut has been extended to February 11th. It was also noted that the Town is close to Tier 5.

Mr. Gasparro invited Ms. Borrelli and Mr. Fogel to address the Commission.

Ms. Borrelli discussed the Home Energy Solutions program, and how successful it has been. next step living had previously presented a partnership to the Commission that was accepted. Ms. Borrelli explained this collaboration. Energy experts and this Commission will present a workshop entitled Energy Efficiency Fundamentals. A letter has been drafted which will be sent to residents explaining the opportunities available through this program. Ms. Borrelli said this letter is being presented to the Commission this evening for their approval before presenting it to the Mayor for his signature. A date will be determined for this presentation.

Next, Mr. Fogel and Ms. Borrelli explained Ductless Mini-splits, and other energy saving opportunities available for residents in area where solar energy and gas heat are not possible.

There was also a discussion regarding the information and presenters that would be available at the workshop. There was also a discussion regarding C-PACE.

Ms. Borrelli said the letter has been vetted through both UI and next step living. She said she feels it is important that a date for the workshop be included in the letter.

Mr. Fogel said his firm is at Stop & Shop twice a week to sign people up for the available programs.

Ms. Borrelli said she would like the Commission to consider including a charitable contribution to the community. There was a discussion regarding this suggestion and possible charities to receive this contribution. It was felt that the Community Services Energy Assistance Fund should be the charity to receive the donation.

Next there was a discussion regarding dates for the proposed workshop. It was suggested by Mr. Fogel that the workshop be held late February or early March.

Mr. Gasparro suggested having the workshop on February 24th the date of the next meeting. It was felt that this would be too short a time frame, since the letter must be mailed out to approximately 8,000 residents. March 3rd was suggested as the date for the workshop.

The letter will be distributed to the members of the Commission for their approval. Ms. Borrelli suggested that the charitable contribution information be included in the letter. All present agreed.

Chairman Gasparro thanked Ms. Borrelli and Mr. Fogel for their presentation.

Next, the Commissioner reviewed the letter presented by Ms. Borrelli. Mr. Marchand will secure date and location for the workshop. After discussing the letter **Commissioner Sowitsky motioned to approve the letter with the suggested changes. Commissioner Cooper seconded the motion that passed unanimously.**

Mr. Gasparro discussed information regarding the RFP for Microgrids that will be released by DEEP.

Next, there was a discussion regarding the Commission's Earth Day presentation.

There was a discussion regarding the proposed tree cutting by United Illuminating.

Mr. Marchand discussed the funds that are available from CEFIA. There was a short discussion regarding what these funds could be used for. Mr. Marchand said there could be more funds available.

There was a discussion regarding Z-REC programs.

Mr. Cooper said there would be two courses at Gateway regarding climate change and energy use. The courses will be Challenges of Climate Change and Sustainable Economic Development. These courses will start the second week of February.

Mr. Gasparro said there would be a fuel cell car on his campus on February 7th.

There was a discussion regarding these two announcements.

ADJOURMENT

There was no further business to come before the Commission and Chairman Gasparro called for a motion to adjourn. **Commissioner Cooper motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Sowitsky seconded the motion that passed unanimously.** The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 PM.

Submitted by: _____
Peggy Craft, Commission Clerk