

**ENERGY USE AND CLIMATE CHANGE COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING
APRIL 18, 2016
7:00 PM
MAIN FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
HAMDEN GOVERNMENT CENTER
2750 DIXWELL
HAMDEN, CONNECTICUT**

COMMISSIONERS IN ATTENDANCE: Frederick Schramm, Vice Chairman
David Cooper
Marty Mador
Amy Sowitsky

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Peggy Craft, Commission Clerk
Chris Marchand
Andrew Kinlock, Recycling Coordinator

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:14 PM.

Vice Chairman Schramm invited Andrew Kinlock, Hamden Recycling Coordinator to address the Commission. Mr. Kinlock has recently been appointed to his present position. He explained the duties in his position. He said plans to focus on education regarding recycling issues and updating the website. He said one of his goals is to increase recycling in Town. There was a lengthy discussion regarding Mr. Kinlock's duties and goals. Mr. Kinlock also discussed his background. He is a 2007 Hamden High School graduate. He also graduated from George Washington University. He has a background in GIS, has worked for Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, UCONN, and is presently employed on a part time basis with the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP).

There was a lengthy discussion regarding remediation issues.

There was also a short discussion regarding Earth Day.

Mr. Cooper discussed Reuse People of America (ReusePeopleofAmerica.org). Mr. Cooper said he advises this group which is located at 400 Sackett Point Road. Mr. Cooper discussed what this organization does.

Mr. Schamm said that he believes Urban Miners has gone out of business.

Mr. Mador asked Mr. Kinlock if he would have an ongoing relationship with this Commission. Mr. Kinlock said he cannot commit to anything right now. He is in the process of visiting Commissions that are related to environmental issues. Ms. Sowitsky discussed the conversation she had with Ellen Endriss, Chairman of the Clean & Green Commission at Earth Day. Ms. Endriss is committed to finding ways the various Commissions in Town can work together.

OLD BUSINESS

There was a lengthy discussion regarding Earth Day. It was noted that attendance was much lower than in previous years. There was a discussion regarding the reasons for this. Among the reasons was the date (the week of school vacation).

There was a discussion regarding the recruitment literature that was given out at Earth Day. There was a discussion regarding people that showed interest in serving on this Commission.

Mr. Cooper suggested having an Environment Film Festival at Earth Day.

Mr. Scramm suggested rankings for businesses regarding energy efficiency. He suggested something being posted on the door of their business.

Next, there was a discussion regarding meeting with the Mayor. Mr. Mador suggested waiting until the Commission has a more robust agenda to present.

There was a discussion regarding the solar lights that are to be donated to Town Center Park. These lights will have a plaque dedicated to the memory of former EU&CCC Commissioner Matt Corcoran. Ms. Sowitsky will compose language for the plaques.

NEW BUSINESS

Parades

The Memorial Day Parade is coming up, and the Columbus Day Parade will be held in Hamden this year in October. Mr. Marchand said he has not seen any benefit to the Commission by participating in the parade(s). There was a discussion regarding this subject. Mr. Schramm discussed the Commission's participation in the Columbus Day Parade five years ago. Mr. Mador will contact local car dealerships regarding their donating a car for the parade.

Government Center Meters

Mr. Schramm discussed the background of Hamden Government Center. He also discussed the 16 electrical meters that are currently serving the building. He feels that this is not cost efficient, and should be changed to one meter. He also discussed the gas meters and weather making units that serve the building. There was a lengthy discussion regarding this subject. Mr. Schramm said he has spoken with Bob Wall, and was told that the funds that are available to us through the Green Bank, could be used for this conversion. This is not an energy saving issue, it is a cost saving issue. Ms. Sowitsky said this subject should be part of the conversation the Commission has with the Mayor.

Ms. Sowitsky discussed doing this as a joint venture. This was discussed by the Commissioners.

Mr. Mador discussed hiring a joint Energy Manager with other Towns. Mr. Marchand pointed out that there is a line item in the Purchasing Department for an Energy Manager. There was a lengthy discussion regarding this subject. It was suggested that a call be made to nearby towns to ascertain if they have an Energy Manager on staff. Mr. Cooper will look into this. Mr. Mador said he would like to list this as a priority for the Commission.

Next, there was a discussion regarding the proposed Spur Trail. Mr. Marchand discussed the background on this proposed project.

Mr. Mador said the Commission should compose a list of priorities for this Commission regarding relevant energy issues. He listed ways this could be accomplished. There was a lengthy discussion regarding this subject.

There was a discussion regarding Green Bank and the programs that are available through them.

Mr. Mador said it is necessary to have a robust conversation regarding the strengths and weaknesses of the Commission. Mr. Mador has a list regarding this subject, and will e-mail it to the Commission members.

There was a discussion regarding electing a new Chairperson for this Commission. It was decided that an election for Commission Chairperson will be held at the next Commission Meeting. There was a discussion regarding this subject.

There was a discussion regarding Sleeping Giant Energy. The discussion included Mr. Schramm's duties with SGE as related to his role on this Commission. Mr. Schramm stated that he feels there is not a conflict of interest or an appearance of a conflict of interest involved.

There was a discussion regarding the EV Stations.

ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business to come before the Commission and Vice Chairman Schramm called for a motion to adjourn. **Ms. Sowitsky motioned to adjourn. Mr. Mador seconded the motion that passed unanimously.** Vice Chairman Schramm adjourned the meeting at 8:58 PM.

Submitted by:

Peggy Craft, Commission Clerk