

Haverhill Mayor's Energy Task Force

25 June 2007 Meeting Minutes

Haverhill City Hall room 301

Monday 25 June 2007 7:00 pm

Task force members in attendance with asterisk:

- Ted Becker, Haverhill citizen *
- Jeff Dill, Haverhill Building Department
- Chris Donovan, Haverhill citizen *
- Concetta Fisichelli, Haverhill citizen
- Jared Fortna, Haverhill citizen *
- Mike LaBonte, Chairman *
- Kathy LaRoque, Haverhill citizen *
- David Swartz, Haverhill City Council

Others in attendance:

- Matt Dugan, Keyspan Energy

Mike LaBonte conducted the meeting

Mike LaBonte made materials available to attendees:

- Meeting agenda
- Draft task force report document, revision 6

Mike LaBonte opened the meeting with a description of communications received regarding the task force.

Mike said that Kathy LaRoque and Chris Donovan were to be formally appointed by the Mayor to the Energy Task Force, and the announcement might be made at the City Council meeting the next day. Kathy and Chris said that they had received letters confirming their appointments.

Mike received a phone call from Shubhada Kambli of EPA New England. She had spoken with the Mayor, who asked her to contact the Energy Task Force. Shubhada was promoting the EPA Community Energy Challenge, EnergyStar, and LEED programs. Mike explained to her that taking the Community Energy Challenge was at one time one of the task force recommendations, but it had been dropped because the benefits were not clear. Shubhada directed Mike to the program web page, which did have more information than previously seen regarding benefits. Shubhada was willing to address the task force, but was unable to make it to the 25 June 2007 meeting. Mike said he would raise the prospect of restoring the recommendation into the task force report.

Mike met with Mayor Fiorentini. The Mayor said that Keyspan and National grid would be able to offer energy audit services to Haverhill, and that Mike would be contacted.

Kathy LaRoque has reserved the Johnson Auditorium at the Haverhill Public Library for a public energy education event. Mike initially recorded that date as 22 August, but Kathy said it is 16 August that is reserved. At this event we would educate people on the benefits of choosing green electric power, but also talk about task force recommendations. The registered event title was "Clean Energy and You". We agreed to address other task force recommendations at the event, such as energy conservation measures. The event title was changed to "Energy and You". The auditorium is available to us from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm, so the advertised event time will be 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm to allow for setup and cleanup time. We will invite National Grid to send a speaker, probably about the GreenUp program. It is possible that MTC may be able to send someone to speak about their Clean Energy Choice program. We agreed that the time allotted for prepared presentations should be relatively short, leaving time for informal discussion and possibly table presentations after. Keyspan might be able to sign people up for energy audits.

We discussed promoting the event. Kathy said a near term media alert about the event would be a good idea, and she will take care of this. We will encourage newspaper articles about the event, and will place it in the calendar sections of the Haverhill Gazette, Eagle Tribune, and Globe North. Informing radio stations is a possibility. Mike will place some kind of visible promotion on the Energy Task Force website. The Mayor may be willing to write about it in his newsletter. It may be possible to have the event mentioned at a Haverhill City Council meeting.

Matt Dugan from Keyspan joined us. Keyspan and National Grid have merged. They would be willing to perform a free initial energy survey for the city. This would encompass both natural gas and electric energy usage, and might take as little as a few hours for City Hall, for example. For residential audits there is the MassSave program. A service company such as CSG would perform the actual audit. On the commercial side, Kim Dragoo at Keyspan would be the person to contact. Matt said he should be able to get natural gas data for the entire city to include in the task force report. This could be broken down into residential, commercial, and industrial categories. Separating government usage would be difficult, unless the city were to provide a list of it's accounts.

We reviewed the draft 6 task force report document:

- Page 18:
 - Ted Becker said that while this page contains some of the material that he sent, not all of it is there. Mike will check the sent document.
- Page 19:
 - Mike had added material to the Environmental Protection Agency Programs section directly copied from an EPA website, with source credit.
- Page 23:
 - The bio-diesel section is now filled with material sent by Kathy LaRoque.
- Page 26:
 - The recommendation regarding an energy manager is less specific about the type of employment contract.
- Page 27:
 - Mike re-inserted the "Take the EPA Community Energy Challenge" recommendation.

The meeting ended at 9:00 pm

Minutes by Mike LaBonte