

Haverhill Mayor's Energy Task Force

31 May 2007 Meeting Minutes

Haverhill City Hall room 301

Monday 31 May 2007 7:00 pm

Task force members in attendance with asterisk:

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

Others in attendance:

- Chris Donovan, Haverhill citizen
- Kathy LaRoque, Haverhill citizen

Mike LaBonte conducted the meeting

Mike LaBonte made materials available to attendees:

- Meeting agenda
- Email from Katy Krottinger of Clean Water Action
- Email from Bob Ward, Haverhill Water and Wastewater
- Spring 2007 edition of MRET Watts News
- Email from Tyler Leeds, MTC
- Massachusetts DOER web page "Moving the Commonwealth to Biofuels"
- Email from Bud Baker, Haverhill Purchasing
- Draft task force report document, revision 5

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

Mike had met Katy Krottinger of Clean Water Action at an awards meeting held by CWA. She is chartered to conduct outreach programs to convince people to switch to green electric power. Mike had invited Katy to address our task force, but she was unable to do so as of yet. Katy and others from CWA might be candidates for an upcoming Haverhill public information event sponsored by the task force.

Bob Ward had sent information regarding electric power purchases made by the water and wastewater departments. They had in the past participated in forward capacity programs, but stopped when incentives were reduced. Bob sent electric supplier and rate information that is used in the latest report draft.

An edition of Watts News from MTC has an article about free web presentations they are developing to educate on various energy topics. Mike had contacted Tyler Leeds of MTC about the presentations. Tyler was unable to present to our task force. He has added Mike to an email list for notification of new materials.

Bud Baker, although retired, replied to Mike's request for information regarding the purchase of bio-diesel fuel under the state's ENE-23 contract. Bud gave reasons why it was previously considered for city use but rejected. Mike had hoped to find out if the state contract provides any price advantage over retail purchase, but there was no information on this. Bud noted that the city diesel tank holds 4000 gallons.

We reviewed the draft 5 task force report document:

- Page 8:
 - Parenthetical letters will be added to Table 3 associating line items with the notes below.
- Page 10:
 - The statement regarding Moodys will be moved to the Executive Summary.
- Page 16:
 - Boston and Cambridge will be added to the list of cities with energy managers.
- Page 23:
 - It was felt that “Consider the use” was a weak phrase in recommendation 6. Kathy and Chris will be working on that recommendation, and they will change the title.
 - Misspelled “edvelopment” in recommendation 7.

Returning to the subject of the public information event sponsored by the task force, we came to a final agreement that this event would be held at the Haverhill Public Library if possible. The event would be aligned with the task force recommendation to encourage Haverhill citizens to purchase clean electricity. Kathy LaRoque agreed to contact the library to book the Johnson Auditorium for a date, preferably in August. She suggested that we promote the event in Globe North as well as local newspapers. Mike thought a poster display about the geothermal HVAC system at the library would be a nice addition. Ted said that Nettle School students had in the past reported on that. It was suggested that Haverhill “I buy green power” bumper stickers might provide an inducement. Mike felt that speakers from MTC and CWA might be available. Ted suggested keeping it short. We agreed that the formal speech part probably should be 30 minutes at most, leaving time for Q&A and open discussions.

Chris Donovan noted that he sees a number of street lights that seem to be always on. We will add to our recommendation on energy savings performance contracting that the ESCos consider looking at that.

We briefly discussed building standards. Mike was told by Rep. Frank Smizik that the cost of LEED certification would be about \$70,000. Not many buildings seem to be LEED certified. Jared Fortna mentioned that in California, Whistler and San Francisco had implement requirements regarding green building. Kathy said that there is a Green Building Council, and she would forward information regarding this. Mike expressed a preference for requiring planners of new buildings to provide energy

scoring information per some standard, and this would be used in comparing bids. It was mentioned that the MTC Green Schools Program was targeted at new, not existing school buildings. Although we knew of no concrete plans for new Haverhill school buildings, there was a Tilton School renovation ahead. Ted said he would look into how we might incorporate the Green Schools Initiative in our recommendations.

Mike asked Kathy and Chris if they would be willing to be formally appointed to the task force, since they have been strong contributors. They agreed, and Mike said he would suggest their appointment to the Mayor.

The meeting ended at 9:39 pm

Minutes by Mike LaBonte