

Camden Energy and Sustainability Committee

MINUTES Final

January 18, 2016

5:30pm, Watershed School

Chair: Anita Brosius-Scott

Next Meeting: February 29, 2016, 5:30-6:30, Washington St. Conference Room.

Present: Anita Brosius-Scott (Chair) Pete Kalajian Marina Schaffler Ken Gross Peter Galloway Sarah Holland	Absent: Dana Strout Marc Ratner Brian Robinson Tom Edge (Steven Moskowitz – has stepped off committee) Jim Heard – Select Board Liaison Pat Finnigan – Town Manager	Guests: None
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Meeting called to order at 5:35pm

Select Secretary - Peter Galloway

Public Comments – None; no members of public

Non-Agenda Items -

- Sarah suggested having Jim Guerra, manager at MidCoast Solid Waste (MCSW, a.k.a. Transfer Station) come to the committee for a discussion about solid waste, energy use and carbon footprint of landfill and transfer operations.
- Would MCSW fall under “Supply” or “Demand” workgroup? Committee agreed to incorporate it somehow in future. Issue has elements of both supply and demand.
- Sarah also suggested that guests (like Jim Guerra) be invited to meetings, especially early-on when the work groups are getting up and running.
- Steve Moskowitz emailed January 18 stating that he has to step down from the committee for 3-6 months due to professional and personal obligations.

Minutes of January 4, 2016 – Corrections to Draft

- Anita was present (not both present and absent)
- Minutes accepted as corrected

Minutes in General

- Rich Text Format file (.rtf) does not transfer in a readable format to Ken Gross; he suggests a .pdf file.
- After discussion regarding Minutes formatting, the Committee arrived at the following:
 - Use only the GoogleDoc format for distributing the draft of the Minutes to committee members
 - All Committee members are asked to become familiar with accessing, reading and commenting (on the GoogleDoc) on the most recent draft of the Minutes. Committee members will not be given the capability of editing, only commenting.
 - An online poll format could be used where members check off when they have agreed to the Minutes.
 - To comment on the Minutes draft, highlight a word or phrase on which you wish to comment, then, for Macs, hit “option-command-M” or, for PCs, “control-alt-M.” A comment box will open in the sidebar with your name and you can add your comment.

- All comments on the Minutes should be contributed online prior to the next meeting, so that meeting time will not be taken up discussing them. A quick formal acceptance of the Minutes, if still needed, then can take very little meeting time unless something needs to be discussed. The poll may enable the Chair to finalize and post the accepted Minutes prior to the following meeting.
- Contact Pete Kalajian (alnitak@gwi.net) if you are having difficulties or need further coaching in using and commenting on the GoogleDoc Draft Minutes.

Work Groups (It was decided to call the Committee's subdivided groups "Work Groups" rather than "Sub-Committees".)

- General discussion:
 - Choosing Projects: Committee agreed to use current evaluative questions as stated in Agenda, to prioritize and decide upon projects:
 - What is...Time-sensitive? Effective? Realistically do-able?
 - Where are people's passions?
 - Importance of Visibility and Education?
 - Low-hanging fruit or go for the long game?
 - What role should economics play?
 - More criteria can be added if needed.
 - Goals: Use current goals, but be aware of new focuses that the Strategy work group / discussions will bring forward.
 - Committee historical note by member of previous committee – first Energy Committee was "reactive" – it was formed in order to work on wind energy on Ragged Mountain; then Joe Sawyer announced that he was giving the Seabright Dam and its hydropower plant to the Town; then the Town announced that they were having the Opera House evaluated for energy. This committee is pro-active.
 - Should Strategy Work Group start before the other groups? It was agreed that other work can also be going forward.
 - Marina brought up discussion about Snow Bowl lodge: concerned that we may not be looking at the big picture. Snow Bowl developments may not be viable in the future in terms of global warming (less snowy winters). Led to discussion about Energy Committee's role in framing Town decisions using a long-term lens. Ask questions like: Does this make sense in the type of world scientists predict we will be living in? Discussed importance of analyzing building techniques, and also follow-through: make sure workers are following through with our criteria. Committee agreed to emphasize LONG TERM decision-making as well as short-term action.
 - Marina also suggested directing students in area school districts towards projects that would help the town.
 - Emphasis on community involvement efforts: workshops, projects, public service opportunities.
- Sign-ups for focused Work Groups
 - **Energy Supply & Generation**: Includes municipal solar, cooperative solar and associated planning and set-up (bureaucratic, ordinances, incentives etc.), EV charging station, wind, hydro, biodiesel etc.;
 - **Peter Galloway**
 - **Pete Kalajian**
 - **Marina Schaffler**
 - **Ken Gross**
 - **Anita Brosius-Scott**

- **Energy Demand:** Includes energy audits, retrofits, municipal interiors, efficiency, Opera House, street lights, other lighting and light pollution. Evaluation of the new Ragged Mt. Lodge construction plans for energy considerations would be first priority

Brian Robinson

Sarah Holland

Marc Ratner

- **Energy Committee Strategy and Communication:** Coming up with an overarching strategy and goals for the Committee: figuring out a game plan; includes studying the Maine Energy Handbook and other documents for guidance, working with school/student groups. Segues to communications, community education and outreach. Town's response and approach to climate change.

Dana Strout had expressed interest in this pursuit

Tom Edge?

- Committee decided to work on Strategy as a whole committee at the monthly meetings, particularly since there are too few volunteers for this otherwise.
- Working with students and school groups: Schools / classes could assist with particular Energy Committee projects if Committee can keep lines of communication open with teachers and plug in with an appropriate project when students or classes are looking for projects.
 - Janet McMahon, Climate Change teacher at Watershed, is returning to Watershed after a year's absence, next year. That class does a project in May.
 - Watershed students have "Project Week" just after Christmas holidays.
 - Students in local schools who want to do Community Service
- It was suggested that the workgroups try to convene and get some work done prior to the next Committee meeting and be ready to report any progress or at least an outline of an action plan. Sarah H. will reach Brian and Mark for the Demand-side Workgroup.
- People can assist on other committees as needed – separation is not formal.
- Each Work Group can keep others apprised of their progress via their own GoogleDoc.
- Work Groups are reminded that the Committee decided previously that we would endeavor to keep track of topics covered in relevant ongoing documents (eg., Municipal Solar status update document; Snowbowl New Lodge status update document, etc.), so that we can all keep track of progress.

NEXT MEETING February 29, 5:30, Washington St. Conference Room. Rationale: Third Monday (15th) is Presidents' Day, another holiday; Anita will not be back from Maryland in time for the following Monday (Feb. 18), but Pete K could chair – Committee decided to just put it off another week to the end of the month (Leap Day!! Will there be an eclipse too??).