

Minutes
The Durham Energy Committee Steering Committee
July 6, 2007
7:30 a.m. Durham Town Hall Council Chambers

Members Present: Nat Balch, Don Brautigam, Diana Carroll - Council Representative / Co-Chairperson, David Cedarholm – DPW Representative, Kevin Gardner – UNH Representative, Filson Glanz, Vasiliki Partinoudi, Paligarnal Vasudevan (PT)

Members Absent: Toby Ball - Chairperson

Others Present: Jerry Needell – Town Councilor

Minutes taker: Don Brautigam

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Diana at 6:40 AM

II. Agenda presented

PT moves to approve; second by Fil; approved unanimously.

III. Minutes reviewed

After minor changes, minutes of 20 June 2007 approved unanimously.

IV. Mission statement

Diana presented a draft statement that superseded the statement from the previous meeting and which fostered further discussion. Kevin emphasized that the town must be addressed as an entire “system” and in particular commented on how zoning elements reflect energy consumption. PT and Diana raised the issues of how energy consumption ties in with economic security. Nat emphasized the importance of the committee’s role in public outreach and education. Kevin questioned the relative efficacy of public education versus town policy and suggested that the educational component could be addressed in the committee objectives. The Mission statement was completed and Fil moved to approve, Kevin seconded, and was approved unanimously.

V. Objectives

A list of Energy Committee objectives was begun and is to be continued next meeting. Diana commented on her correspondence (7/4/2007) with Blaine Cox (ORCSD) who had emailed her that he has “*requested that the Aramark Energy Analysis Team prepare for ORCSD (and Durham?) a presentation for August or September so that we can look at what may be able to offer us. In response, they sent me the attached items and indicated that they would be most willing to make a presentation to us.*”

VI. Mill Plaza Development

There was a brief mention of the Durham Mill Plaza development project in regard to Toby's email (6/27/07, attached as separate document) in which Toby shares his correspondence with Maura Adams (Jordan Institute) suggesting that someone from the Energy Committee set up a meeting with Patrick Field of Consensus Building Institute. Diana said she would set up a meeting between Mr. Field and any of the Energy Committee members who could make it.

VII. Energy Baseline

There was a short discussion about the logistics of assessing the town's energy baseline. Dave said that bills were consolidated at DPW which should facilitate gathering the relevant information to establish baseline. Kevin indicated the need to go beyond looking at just the town's expenditure on utilities (and vehicle use); also looking at commuter traffic, etc. Vaso reiterated that there is an opportunity to apply for a small grant to fund a baseline study. [I believe she was referring to New England Grassroots Environment Fund (NEGEF). Cheryl King Fischer, executive director of NEGEF, presented at the Carbon Coalition *Energy Committee Workshop* at Sandy Point Discovery Center on June 12 which a number of us attended. She noted that there were grants of up to \$2500 available, with an application deadline of September 15.]

VIII. Next meeting Set

Because several people are planning to be on vacation during the remainder of July, the next meeting was set for August 1 at 6:30 AM.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 AM.