

Durham Energy Committee Meeting - Minutes DRAFT#3
Monday September 8, 2008
4:30
Durham Town council Chambers

Present: Nat Balch, Toby Ball, Don Brautigam, Doug Clark, Kevin Gardner, Fil Glanz, Vaso Partinoudi,

Absent: Dave Cedarholm (DPW representative/Town Engineer), P.T. Vasudevan

Meeting called to order at 4:30 PM

Minutes of the meeting of August 25, 2008 were discussed and a few comments were corrected and/or changed. The minutes were amended and passed unanimously.

Toby Ball is resigning as Chair of the DEC because of work demands. Kevin Gardner volunteered to take over the Chairmanship, and was unanimously voted in as Chair.

P. T. Vasudevan has submitted his resignation (on 9/8/08) from the DEC because of new work commitments and some family health problems. Rob Sullivan was suggested as a possible candidate, and a request for new members of the Committee will be put in the Friday Updates (it will be added to the Master Plan visioning meeting notice.).

Master Plan (The main topic for this meeting!)

There was some discussion of the "Process" statement drafted by Kevin and Fil, and various other related topics.

One item of discussion concerned if or how we should mention global climate change , peak oil and similar hot-button topics in the statement written by Kevin as an announcement for the Friday Updates email newsletter concerning our Public Energy Future Visioning session anticipated for Tuesday September 23. Other wording suggestions were "Energy security," vs. "energy independence." Kevin pointed out that "energy alternatives" was in our charter. The first sentence of the statement was expanded and a last sentence added to announce the vacancy and request applicants. The final version follows:

We need your voice for Durham's Master Plan chapter on Energy to shape a long-term vision for addressing our energy needs.

The Durham Town Council has formed the Durham Energy Committee to advise the council on ways to reduce energy use, develop alternative energy sources, and increase the economic security and energy independence of the town. Recently, the Durham Planning Board requested the Energy Committee draft a chapter of the Master Plan to steer the actions of the town with respect to energy. A critical component of developing any aspect of the Master Plan is public input and public involvement. The Plan needs to represent the residents of the town of Durham. There are two ways to be involved. One is to join the subcommittee as the Master Plan is developed over the ensuing months. Please contact Kevin Gardner ([HYPERLINK "mailto:kevin.gardner@unh.edu"](mailto:kevin.gardner@unh.edu) kevin.gardner@unh.edu), Chair of the Energy Committee, to volunteer in this regard. The second is to attend the three planned public hearings to provide your input.

The first public hearing is scheduled for September 23, 2008 7:00 pm-8:30 pm in the Durham town council chambers. Join us for a conversation on how Durham can ensure its economic vitality and energy stability and reduce its environmental impact. It is a critical time in our nation's and town's history, and it is incumbent upon us to face the challenges associated with energy use and climate change and plan for a more sustainable future.

The Durham Energy Committee also has one vacancy and invites interested town residents to apply.

There was more discussion of the process - mainly about the Visioning Session and how we would run it.

A suggestion was made to have some headings to suggest topics such as Transportation, House Temperature, Public Buildings, etc. The conclusion was that this was too detailed.

Nat suggested that we each send each other questions that we thought would stimulate the Vision discussion. We could reply by email to these.

Another suggestion was to have a few of us state our vision: we concluded that these statements should be more general than detailed such as "Get free of fossil fuel," or "Localize our energy sources."

Doug suggested that all comments would fall into one of two categories: Problems, or Solutions.

We discussed the need for a moderator. That would be preferred if we could find someone who would do it. Nat suggested Walter Rous or Bill Schoonmaker either of whom would be good and as architects would be used to this kind of session.

We agreed that the session would be from 7:00 to 8:30 PM.

We will need one or two newsprint pads to list comments and suggestions.

We agreed that two types of document would result:

A Summary of the Public comments.

The Vision statements that we arrive at from those comments.

Other Business

Vaso will talk to the web site manager about our committee information and why/how it got changed, and what we can do about that.

Adjourned meeting at about 6:00 PM

**NEXT MEETING MONDAY SEPTEMBER 22 AT 4:30 PM IN DURHAM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS!**

Respectfully submitted by Filson Glanz