



ENERGY COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday,
May 20, 2019 7:00 PM
Visitors Center
14 North St

MINUTES

Approved 7/15/2019

Mr. Lucier called the meeting to order at 6:40 PM and asked for a roll call.

(Nancy gave a presentation on large scale Solar prior to the meeting.)

I. Roll Call

Present: David Lucier, - Vice Chair, Rebecca Mackenzie, Derek Ferland

Absent: Scott Pope, Alt Marilyn Harris, Alt Robin Hutchins (phone option was not available)

City Staff: Scott Osgood, City Planner

II. Review of Minutes April 15, 2019

Reb said there were a lot of corrections and asked we could fine tune the minutes of April 15 and review at the next meeting. Committee agreed by consensus. Reb to call Scott O and note the corrections.

III. Project Updates

A I: Education and Outreach

NH Saves/Button Up Workshop: Reb spoke with Robin at the NH Saves coordinating office. No date set as yet. Waiting for Scott P to coordinate with the tech center education program. No contact made as yet. Would be a DIY program chosen by Alex.

Derek said he will ask Alex to contact Reb about scheduling the workshops. Noted there could be more than one scheduled. Plan is to schedule the first one in September.

AII: Newspaper Articles

Reb opened up the topic on the newspaper articles. Nancy said it would be good to have them in the packet and be proofed prior to each meeting. There was to be two per month to coordinate with Eagle Times to. A good topic noted was to have an article on Outreach.

Reb asked for feedback on the climate change article. Derek stated it went beyond what the City Committee is tasked with. Stated it went too far as to the causes of Climate Change and that it didn't

set the right tone. Noted the committee should be very careful. He found this article as too evangelical and that the article should be discussed as a group.

He noted that it is important to have the right tone and purpose and stated that the committee's duty is to advise and inform the public. He noted it is an important part of how we educate the public.

David stated that the Committee should keep in mind that the role of the Committee is to advise City Council and to educate and advocate. He said the tone of the article was rather dire and that he understands the viewpoint of the article and that he has a sincere interest in the topic but that this type of article would most likely be found in a publication that was very extreme, and is one that this committee shouldn't get involved in. He said it sets a tone of fear, which is not what we are here to do. He said he is not disagreeing with the fact that it is happening, but that it is not in the committee's purview that we advocate for this position but focus only on what the Committee can do here. The article was well beyond policy.

Derek noted that there are three perspectives. Some don't agree at all; some think it might be happening; and some say it is the direct result of human activity... and that the article was firmly in the third category. He agreed with David in that playing on the fear part was not appropriate. Said it makes him uncomfortable, and that when one is on a public committee, private views are not acceptable to be considered Committee views.

Derek talked about practical measures to guide the committee's selections and wanted for an article to be about saving money for schools and home owners and how to navigate the information that is out there, like climate change.

Rebecca's response was that she agrees it is a bit evangelical and that this is not the necessary approach, but that the committee should, in her estimation, agree that we are in a climate crisis and we need to take it seriously, especially in planning against the climate change and educating the public. Rebecca asked for more technical advice to help improve the articles.

Committee agreed that it is important to get the Solar Ordinance done, have the insulation workshops, and with any success, bigger projects.

Current article was approved. But with no quorum was not officially accepted.

New Business

Discussion was held as to the Committee having a charter. Bylaws are on the docket for Committee consideration.

Solar Ordinance –

Scott O presented an edited version of the recent draft for the solar ordinance. He noted much of the language came from the ordinance written by the Clean Energy group of last year.

Discussed the details. Summarized into three groups: Roof Mounted, Large Scale Arrays and Ground Mounted.

Considered a recommendation to create a Site Evaluation Committee, on a local scale, to mimic the State System for reviewing and recommending plan approvals.

Derek asked who would be on the Committee. - Scott said the members need to have sufficient experience, be local, and be chosen by the Energy Committee, and include members of other City committees and activities in the City.

Scott stated there is a lot of work needs to be done before the draft ordinance is ready for public comment. Need better definitions, reiterated limitations. Derek asked that a spreadsheet similar to the one in the draft ordinance be added to the draft ordinance,

David noted issues with some of the language in the draft ordinance.

The committee discussed neighborhood issues.

The committee recommended that future meetings regarding the Solar Ordinance could be on an as needed basis.

Current Legislation

Scott distributed a sheet with the status of current Energy related legislation

Motion to Adjourn

Made by: David **Second:** Derek

Vote: Unanimous

The meeting adjourned at 7:45

Respectfully submitted,
Scott Osgood
City Planner