

GAB 9/9/09

Note: We'll be moving the start time to 7pm for the November 4 meeting and the December 2 meeting to due to a conflict.

Present: Kate Crosby, Tom Michelman, Chris Schaffner (7:05), Mary Smith, Terry Lindgren, Paulina Knibbe, John Murray

Meeting called to order by Kate at 6:40.

Minutes: Accepted and seconded. Voted unanimously. Minutes were from: July 15, August 5, August 10, August 26

Solar Panel Update

4 envelops for the School. Bids will be opened this week.
Town will open bids next week.

Green Communities Update

No technical assistance. DOER made it very clear, not getting technical assistance does not handicap us for getting funds

Paulina wants the DOER to come up and present the Stretch Code this fall.

Terry believes there will be a health meeting in the fall; there is a budget meeting by Cori Atkins (10 or 11) and an Education meeting sponsored by the ADTC and Jen Benson (11/9).

There was a discussion about the overlap of the audiences for these meetings and Code interest. It was generally agreed that they attract different audiences.

It was noted that the BOS can approve the Stretch Code without going back to Town Meeting. There will be a Motion to adopt the Stretch Code.

With regard to the grant: Joanne Bisetta – noted it was okay the call even though we did not get Technical Assistance.

Consensus that the GAB would help market the meetings and get good attendance. Terry suggested a goal of getting 50 people to the meeting. Paulina believes we need to have a forum where the authority from the state to be there to answer questions to answer their concerns. Remodeling, Construction, Business Development concerns. BBRS representative might be able to come out and present about the stretch code. Goal is to inform the public and the BOS; make a good well-founded decision.

As a part of the education effort, Paulina suggested getting people writing letters to the editor.

Needed Action Item: Owner to coordinate getting letter writers.

Important: Mary wants to get assurance that NSTAR rebates are not at risk if we adopt the Stretch Code.

Action Item: Mary will talk to Frank Gorke at the DPU to answer the question.

Action Item: John, the GAB and the BOS would help put together FAQs on the stretch code and have the answers for the Public Meeting

Chris suggested we try to adopt before Jan 1st.

Benchmark / Footprint Recommendation

Ryan Katofsky of Sustainable Arlington. ICLEI provided a kick-start for a footprint and Action Plan.

Newburyport – Molly Etingborough Energy Coordinator. EPA Portfolio Manager. ICLEI focus on Staff and Elected officials. Working on a Carbon Challenge for residences.

ICLEI - \$600 dues / year for everything. Good time to get free interns. Many people do both EPA and ICLEI.

Linda Darvoe of EPA. Portfolio Manager focuses on Municipal Buildings and other ???. Professor can backfill \$2000 gets us 102 hours. They would populate, but we would need to update. Working with Dr. Farad is great. Using this tools allows for benchmarking and prioritization. Puts all data into kBtus.

Dedham – has environmental manager on staff, and like ICLEI

Medfield – have not joined ICLEI, thought it was too much money. Populating the EPA Portfolio Manager.

Westford – Is not going to do a footprint. They will have a larger meeting with Littleton. No decision on participating in this.

Belmont – Uses ICLEI, like the idea of quantification before action. Belmont will submit a report and presentation on September 21st. They have the footprint and are following up with a sustainability action plan.

Cambridge – Belongs to ICLEI and strongly recommends it. ICLEI recommends the municipal climate registry. Building, vehicles, and lights. Using the DOER sponsored form for automatic data. Self-populate. Peregrine Energy is the consultant to Energy Information System. We need to ask when can we get the data and how easy it is import to Portfolio Manager and/or Climate Registry.

There was discussion about which tool if any to use and what direction to go in.

When some department makes it own spreadsheet, they can just do it in the online tool.

Work is gathering and entering the data. We have to establish a baseline to get Green Communities.

Baseline that Green Communities needs is a baseline data for municipal and school buildings.

Mary strongly recommends EPA Portfolio Manager.

Kate proposed that we work with EPA Portfolio Manager and table ICLEI and Climate Registry for now. Priority for EPA Portfolio Manager and intern for

John wants us to pick the best model.

Kate would like to definitely use ICLEI and Climate Registry in the future and ASAP.

\$1000 for the EPA Model intern. ICLEI costs \$600 / year. If the money has become available. Retain an intern for \$2000 \$1000 from the remaining MTC grant, and \$1000 from FY10 funds. Possible to have EPA Model (access to grants, database that will help measure for grants, input for Green Communities, and is start for Climate Registry inputs.

The GAB unanimously approved motions to ask the BOS and SC for \$1600 and to first connect with the EPA, and then with ICLEI. GAB will contribute \$1000. So total for FY 2010 is \$2600. This will be used for 102 hours of an EPA Model intern and the ICLEI annual fee.

Schools and Town to each contribute \$800, if possible.

[Action Item: John and Terry find out if the money is available.](#)

BOS Oversight 10/19 Budget Items 8:30

Three ongoing projects.

1. Solar Project
2. Stretch Code
3. Building Modeling

The BOS and Town Manager has asked the FinCom to be on the Solar PPA review committee.

What is the distribution between schools and Town? TBD \$10,000 for graduate student interns to write the reduction plan. Funding sources will be investigated. Have any grants been identified?

Need rational for asking the funds. John wants all the rational for all the ammunition for the argument.

There are green benefits and financial benefits. If \$10k can save \$20k then we will have winner.

Action Item: Justify funding in a proposal. Owner Kate and Chris.

Adjourned at 8:40 pm