

CEUCC Meeting Notes  
August 8, 2011

Commissioners attending: Andrea Ranger, David Lutes, Alyssa Rosen, Peter McPhee.

Commission administrative issues

Discussed filling Eric Becker's position on the Commission. Alyssa suggested posting the opening on ResiStat email or OSE's webpage and the Facebook page

Residential Energy Efficiency program

David stated that an offer was made to a candidate for the Residential Energy Efficiency Program. If the candidate says "yes" then the person could start next week.

David is interested in scheduling an interim CEUCC meeting to meet with Dana LeWinter, Director of Housing, and new candidate.

Dana L, Omar Boukili, David L and several staff from Serrafix have been meeting with Century Bank. Two people from NSTAR came to the meetings, Jan Gudell and Bill Stack, head of residential programs.

David said that Century was interested in adding Somerville to their ad campaign for the HEAT Loan program and that they may develop marketing material specific to Somerville.

The loan loss reserve fund will be available for any bank to tap but Somerville is going to try to work with local banks. There will be minimum equity requirements and the LLR would fulfill that minimum requirement.

David said that the city has talked to NSTAR about marketing the program; there were also discussion over sharing data, which will remain confidential.

David acknowledged that Peregrine Energy gets the data because they have signed the agreement through Serrafix with NSTAR. The data can help evaluate the pre- and post- for residential projects in Somerville.

OSE has talked internally about the marketing – ResiStat would be engaged and 311 the gateway to the city would also be engaged. 311 would have their full script of how the REEP program works. The Housing group has its own set of outreach contacts – SCC, CAAS, Portuguese, Hispanic, Haitian-Creole etc.

Andrea and other Commission members asked how the City was doing on the three year EECBG program timeline. David said that there was funding for a loan loss reserve, grants, and funding the REEP staff person. November 2012 is the 3 year end date. Once the money is encumbered, it's considered spent by DOE. The LLR can last much longer than Nov 2012 especially if there are no bad loans.

## **Green Communities Act**

David said that the Grant application is due August 26<sup>th</sup>. DOER is looking for projects that could get done within a year or so. Funds can be spent on renewable energy, Energy Efficiency projects, policy development (like planning or implementation).

David is interested in doing a roof assessment of all city buildings. Alyssa suggested calling it a photovoltaic potential study in order to satisfy requirements of Green Communities Act. There are about 20 buildings that may be able to be assessed.

Peter talked about “Solarize Mass” that Winchester, Scituate, Harvard, are doing where they put out an RFP for a solar installer – to bring costs down via doing high numbers of homes (and maybe small business)- Systems are less than 5 kW.

Metropolitan Area Planning Commission has recognized a gap in – need to figure out how to hire a consultant through them who would serve multiple municipalities for ESCO’s, solar ESCO’s.

David also said he is looking at converting the high school to natural gas, and it would be a big project. The City is also looking at some new vehicles for the DPW.

The Commission is still looking for a facilitator for the Climate Summit and institutional learning on how to incorporate thinking on climate change into city decision-making.

Andrea strongly suggested getting a thorough city-wide carbon benchmarking study completed.

Peter asks about what about doing pilot projects in the city – city bike share, helping the EECBG program.

The Commission Adjourned at 8:35 p.m.