



MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, December 19, 2018

100 Cambridge St, 2nd Floor

Conference Rooms B & C

Boston, MA 02114

Councilors Present: JoAnn Bodemer (for Maggie Downey), Don Boecke (for Maura Healey), Amy Boyd, Cindy Carroll, Elizabeth Cellucci, Brandy Chambers (for Tilak Subrahmanian), Justin Davidson, Paul Gromer, Charlie Harak, Elliott Jacobson, Emmett Lyne (for Michael Sommer), Richard Malmstrom, Maggie McCarey (for Judith Judson), Laurie Pereira, Cammy Peterson (for Rebecca Davis), Chris Porter, Robert Rio, Mary Wambui, Sharon Weber (for Martin Suuberg)

Councilors Absent: Cindy Arcate, Eric Beaton, Michael Ferrante, Paul Johnson, Andrew Newman, Victoria Rojo

Consultants Present: Eric Belliveau, Craig Johnson

DOER Staff Present: Rachel Evans, Ian Finlayson, Emily Powers, Joanna Troy

1. Call to Order

McCarey, as Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:10 PM.

2. Public Comment

Hank Keating – Passive House Massachusetts

Keating noted that the recently approved 2019-2021 Three Year Plan made commitments for passive house training. He did note, however, that the \$200,000 budget allocation was much less than the \$1,200,000 that he and his colleagues advocated for during the planning phase. He indicated that he was concerned that the planned budget allocation for passive house training was not enough and urged the Council to push for higher budgets in this area.

Emily Jones – LISC

Jones began by echoing Keating's comments regarding funding for passive house training. She requested that \$200,000 to \$250,000 be reallocated from the commercial and industrial sector budget towards passive house training. Jones also suggested that more emphasis would be needed for tradesperson training for passive house. Lastly, she noted that more needs to be done to streamline the energy modeling process. She referenced a recent project which needed to go through five different models in order to receive full credit.

3. Council Updates and Business

September 27, 2018 EEAC Meeting Minutes

Manning motioned to approve the minutes as submitted. Rio seconded. All were in favor, with none opposed. McCarey abstained. The minutes were approved, as submitted, by the Council.

October 10, 2018 EEAC Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Boecke motioned to approve the minutes as submitted. Malmstrom seconded. All were in favor, with none opposed. McCarey abstained. The minutes were approved, as submitted, by the Executive Committee (ExCom).

October 25, 2018 EEAC Extraordinary Meeting Minutes

Boecke made a clarification about a comment he made regarding the program administrator's (PAs) performance incentive. His clarification was captured as an amendment to the minutes.

Boecke motioned to approve the minutes as amended. Boyd seconded. All were in favor, with none opposed. McCarey abstained. The minutes were approved, as amended, by the Council.

October 30, 2018 EEAC Meeting Minutes

Lyne noted a grammatical error that was captured as an amendment in the minutes. Rio motioned to approve the minutes as amended. Malmstrom seconded. All were in favor, with none opposed. McCarey abstained. The minutes were approved, as amended, by the Council.

December 5, 2018 EEAC Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Boyd motioned to approve the minutes as submitted. Malmstrom seconded. All were in favor, with none opposed or abstaining. The minutes were approved, as submitted, by the ExCom.

4. Comprehensive Energy Plan Update

Joanna Troy gave a presentation to the Council on DOER's Comprehensive Energy Plan. In her presentation, Troy began with an overview of the state's energy use and emissions and the modeling approach that was carried out as part of the plan. She then reviewed their findings which included impacts on emissions, electric rates, and energy bills. Troy concluded by reviewing the plan's policy priorities and strategies for the thermal, electric, and transportation sectors.

Gromer asked Troy what she felt was the most interesting finding and what the associated recommendation was. Troy noted that their modeling of electric vehicles, energy storage, and

heat pumps revealed the importance of managing loads during peak periods and the associated effects on costs if not managed correctly.

Peterson noted that the aggressive conservation and fuel switching scenario solidified the need for the Council's platform. She added that it made her further appreciate the inclusion of the avoided cost of compliance of the Global Warming Solutions Act in the recently approved 2019-2021 Three Year Plan.

5. 2019 Council Planning

2019 Meeting Schedule and Topics

McCarey reviewed through the 2019 Council meeting dates and topics. She noted that they did their best to align meeting topics with commitments from the Council's resolution and the term sheet.

Jacobson noted that the draft meeting topics included low-income in April and moderate-income in February. He requested that moderate-income topic be included with low-income in April. He added that they would be having meetings in January and that they would be able to give a better presentation in April as opposed to February.

Lyne, on behalf of the Program Administrators (PAs), requested that some of the Council meetings be held at different locations across the Commonwealth.

Consultant Team Work Plan

Belliveau reviewed the consultant team's (C-Team) draft workplan for 2019. In his presentation, Belliveau reviewed the timeline of the work plan and noted that it would be developed through August when their contract ends. He also reviewed their planned deliverables, work areas, and the key topics that would be focused on. He concluded by noting that he would bring their work plan and associated budget back in January for the Council's review and vote.

Council Priorities

McCarey reviewed the Council's draft priorities document. She noted that they used previous implementation year priority documents as a starting place and that they made some adjustments.

Peterson noted that each of the priorities specifically asked for PA updates except for the fourth priority. She asked that it be included in the fourth priority so that all are consistent with that ask.

Boyd thanked DOER for drafting the priorities document and noted that she felt that it integrated well with the proposed schedule and the term sheet.

McCarey noted that they would incorporate feedback and that they would bring it back for a Council vote in January.

6. 2018 Year-End Data Dashboard

Steve Menges and Brian Greenfield, on behalf of the PA's, updated the Council on the PA's 2018 performance through October and their year- and term-end forecasts. In their presentation

they reviewed year-to-date results and term-end forecasts for participants, spending, and savings by sector for electric and gas programs.

Weber asked why the year-end projections for savings was presented as a range of values, but the spending was just a singular value. Greenfield noted that there is a lot of variability in the measure mix and so the savings associated with those measures necessitate a range. On the other hand, Greenfield noted that spending is more well known and has less fluctuation.

Boyd noted that the year-to-date results of summer capacity were well over one-hundred percent for the residential and low-income sector. She asked why the low-income value was so high compared to its achievement on annual savings. Brandy Chambers, on behalf of the PAs, noted that the low-income summer capacity achievement value appeared to be an error.

McCarey asked what was driving the difference between low-income participant numbers compared to savings. Jacobson noted that low-income multifamily has a lot that comes in at year-end.

7. Merrimack Valley Targeted Energy Efficiency Plan

Cellucci gave a presentation to the Council on Columbia Gas' efforts for targeting the greater Lawrence area for energy efficiency. In her presentation she gave an overview of the customer makeup and detailed their ongoing and planned enhancements for residential and business customers.

Boyd asked if self-mitigating customers would get incentives to close the gap between standard and high efficiency equipment. Cellucci noted that customers would not necessarily receive a 100% incentive. She did note, however, that they had processed about twenty so far and that all but one did receive the 100% incentive.

Weber asked if they would be covering pre-weatherization measures in addition to the standard weatherization measures. Cellucci indicated that they had some funds for barrier mitigation in their existing programs. She added that they would be open and flexible to covering some pre-weatherization measures, but that they were hesitant about committing to a certain dollar amount given the high costs of those measures.

Peterson asked how they were handling customers that might want to do fuel switching and need upgrades to their electrical panels. Cellucci indicated that they did not have a set plan for handling that circumstance.

Peterson asked if Cellucci could provide more detail on their upcoming marketing plans. Cellucci indicated that they had a list of customers that they would be reaching out to with marketing materials that outline the customers' options. She added that Columbia Gas planned to follow-up with customers on an on-going basis.

Wambui asked what the approach was for handling outreach in different languages. Cellucci indicated that most of their materials would be available in Spanish and some other languages as

well. She added that as part of the effort, Columbia Gas had opened a customer care center in each city and that they hired several locals who are bilingual and who will remain with the company permanently.

8. Adjournment

McCarey, as Chair, adjourned the meeting at 3:35 PM.