



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, February 7, 2018
100 Cambridge St, 10th Floor
Boston, MA 02114

Executive Committee Members Present: Don Boecke, Amy Boyd, Judith Judson, Emmett Lyne, Rich Malmstrom

Other Attendees: Eric Belliveau (via phone), JoAnn Bodemer, Rachel Evans, Ian Finlayson (via phone), Jonathan Goldberg, Elliott Jacobson, Craig Johnson, Alex Pollard, Matt Rusteika

1. Call to Order

Commissioner Judson, as Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:42 PM.

2. Upcoming Meetings and Agendas

February Council Meeting Agenda

Rusteika reviewed the agenda for the February Council meeting. He noted that it would include a discussion and vote on the open Executive Committee (ExCom) seat, a discussion and vote on the 2019-2021 Plan Workshop Recommendations, and a Fourth Quarter report from the PAs. Rusteika added that Councilors Jacobson and Wambui had expressed interest in the open ExCom seat and that they would be asked to make an opening statement before the vote.

Public Listening Sessions

Rusteika reviewed the upcoming listening sessions and noted that there would be one held in Boston, Fall River, Salem, Mashpee, Worcester, and Springfield. He added that they would all be held from 6-8 PM.

Jacobson asked how the listening sessions would be run. Rusteika indicated that he was still finalizing the format but that they would start off with an introduction from the PAs, DOER, and Council members before opening it up to the audience. He added that people will be encouraged to submit written comments. Jacobson asked if there would be any sort of dialogue. Rusteika indicated that they would be happy to answer questions that can easily be answered.

Commissioner Judson added that their preference would be to mostly just listen to what people have to say.

Boyd asked if Councilors would be expected to attend the listening sessions. Commissioner Judson indicated that they would be encouraged but not required. She also suggested that the PAs have a booth with Mass Save marketing materials to hand out. Jacobson noted that LEAN would have representatives from low-income services as them as well.

Commissioner Judson asked how the public listening sessions were being marketed. Rusteika indicated that some of the host venues are helping with that and that DOER's media presence would be advertising them. Goldberg added that the PAs have reached out to the marketing team responsible for the Mass Save website to see what they can do.

March Meeting Agenda

Rusteika noted that the March meeting would include a presentation from the consultant team (C-Team) on their assessment of potential as well as a discussion on potential changes to the term sheet metrics for the 2019-2021 Plan. Pollard added that they currently have an open thirty minute slot that they are looking to fill. He noted that the meeting is scheduled to be focused on the commercial and industrial (C&I) sector and was looking for feedback as to whether they should proceed with C&I for March or to move it to April. He also indicated that the C-Team would not have a presentation because they would be busy working on the assessment of potential.

Malmstrom suggested that the PAs could do another case study on a specific area of the C&I sector such as commercial real-estate. Jacobson indicated that he liked that idea. Pollard suggested that they could combine that with some updates on the PAs 2016-2018 Plan commitments.

On the potential changes to the term sheet metrics for the 2019-2021 Plan, Boyd asked if that would be in the form of a proposal from the C-Team. Lyne indicated that it would be in the form of a presentation about proposing changes to the metrics rather than having actual changes proposed.

Belliveau noted that the information the C-Team needs to complete their assessment of potential has been coming in slower than anticipated. He indicated that they are not yet worried about completing the assessment of potential ahead of the March meeting, but that could change if the potential studies are completed later than expected. Belliveau added that they would give the Council an update at the February meeting.

3. 2019 – 2021 Plan Recommendations Resolution

Rusteika introduced the resolution and asked if anyone had edits or feedback.

Boecke noted that he was appreciative of getting the resolution down to a couple of pages and added that there were a couple of items in the draft that he was unsure if he could support at the full Council.

The first item had to do with how the last sentence in the introduction was framed. Boecke noted that the language made it seem like the public listening sessions would be a point of important consideration for the Plan. He pointed out that it is unclear whether or not the public listening sessions will result in important considerations for the Plan since they have not yet been conducted. He suggested revising the language to indicate that the information coming out of the public listening sessions may be considered in the planning process.

The second item had to do with the language that referenced strategic electrification and fuel switching as part of the Plan. He indicated that the Attorney General would likely not support language that put emphasis on those items, since in his opinion they are not part of the Council's directive. He added that he was concerned that emphasizing measures that have carbon reducing attributes over measures that lower system costs could lead the Council away from its core responsibilities. Boyd noted that the language that discusses those types of measures and strategies is preempted by language that says they must first meet the minimum requirement of being "cost-effective energy efficiency and demand reduction resources." Jacobson added that low-income consumers are price-sensitive but that they still want to have the carbon benefits afforded by those types of measures and strategies to the extent that they fall under the purview of the Council.

Lyne shared some preliminary ideas and comments on behalf of the PAs. He noted that the PAs agreed with Boecke's concerns and added that the document is supposed to synthesize thoughts coming out of the planning workshops. He indicated that the items that were not discussed at the workshops should therefore not be included in the resolution. Lyne also noted that similar resolutions in the past have included a discussion on bill impacts and that this one does not include that. He recommended that some language be added to discuss bill impacts.

Rusteika indicated that they would continue to work on the resolution with the feedback provided.

Boecke asked if the entire report coming out of the workshops was going to be included as an attachment or if it would just be the bullet point recommendations. Lyne indicated that the PAs felt it should just be the bullet point recommendations. Rusteika agreed.

4. Adjournment

Commissioner Judson, as Chair, adjourned the Executive Committee at 3:55 PM.