



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, June 5, 2019
100 Cambridge St, 10th Floor
Boston, MA 02114

Executive Committee Members Present: Don Boecke, Amy Boyd, Elliott Jacobson, Emmett Lyne, Rick Malmstrom, Maggie McCarey (for Judith Judson)

Other Attendees: Marie Abdou, Eric Belliveau, JoAnn Bodemer, Austin Brandt, Maggie Downey, Rachel Evans, Jonathan Goldberg, Michael Goldman, Frank Gundal, Craig Johnson, Emily Powers

1. Call to Order

McCarey, as Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:36 PM.

2. Cape Light Compact and Eversource Negotiations Update

Downey began by noting that the Cape Light Compact (CLC) had just received a memo from Eversource and that the overarching message was that Eversource reiterated its position on having control over the CLC's active demand response program. She added that the memo did not respond to CLC's proposed mitigation measures which she believed would address Eversource's concerns.

Goldman confirmed that Eversource sent a memo to the CLC and added that Eversource was cautiously optimistic that the two parties would be able to work something out. He indicated that Eversource's Vice President of Grid Operations and their distribution plan and engineering teams are sitting down to talk about the issues.

McCarey asked if Eversource was reviewing the CLC's proposed mitigation measures. Goldman indicated that that was part of what Eversource was working on doing. He added that the issue was not inherently an energy efficiency issue, but that it was manifesting through the energy efficiency programs.

McCarey asked if residential-scale batteries would require interconnection with Eversource. Goldman indicated that they would and added that Eversource would not know if they would be aggregated and dispatched together, but only where they were located. Downey noted that there are vendors that could aggregate several residential-scale batteries and asked how Eversource would know if that was happening. Gundal indicated that Eversource would likely take legal action in that case. Goldman added that they could shut them off if needed. Brandt indicated that the CLC had offered that insight through their direct load control platform. Downey added that the CLC felt that they were being reasonable in proposing legitimate ways to mitigate Eversource's concerns.

Downey asked if Eversource had completed its dispatch plan for its programs. Goldman indicated that Eversource has the dispatch plan laid out with its triggers and processes but that it was not yet ready to be shared publicly.

Jacobson asked what the Executive Committee's role was in the negotiations. McCarey noted that the Executive Committee's role is to make sure that negotiations are continuing towards a solution. She added that the Executive Committee could take a more active role in the negotiations if the two parties wanted, but that that was not yet the case.

McCarey indicated that before the next Executive Committee meeting, Eversource will need to determine if the CLC's proposed mitigation measures would meet their concerns, and if not, what would be needed to overcome their concerns. She added that if the negotiations are not at that point by that time, then the Executive Committee will need to start thinking about making a recommendation.

Belliveau asked if it was already too late for the CLC to run programs this summer. Brandt indicated that it was. McCarey added that this was not good from an equity perspective. Downey noted that it would be a disservice to both entities if they do not come to an agreement.

3. Quarterly Report Feedback and Discussion

McCarey noted that the Program Administrators (PAs) updated the format of the quarterly reports to ensure that they included updates on priorities and key performance indicators (KPIs). She added that the new format included a lot of good information but expressed concern that the program highlights section was removed. She indicated that DOER asked the PAs to include the program highlights section. Belliveau noted that the consultant team (C-Team) agreed on the point about making sure there was a program highlights section in future iterations. He added that the C-Team would like to see more consistency in the level of detail provided across different sections of the report. Lyne indicated that the PAs were willing to bring back the program highlights section.

4. Executive Committee and Council Survey Results

McCarey noted that everyone seemed to feel that the Executive Committee meetings were productive and that agenda topics were informative. She added that the Executive Committee survey suggested that members would like more opportunities to weigh in on topics for Council

meetings. McCarey noted that based on that suggestion, the Executive Committee would preview the next two month's agenda items to allow for more input. She noted that another piece of feedback was that the Executive Committee would like to have a discussion on what its full role is and suggested that this could be discussed at its next meeting.

McCarey noted that a full presentation on the Council survey results would take place at the June Council meeting. She indicated that some Councilors thought presentations were too in the weeds while others thought they needed to be more informative. Boecke suggested that that is an indication that presentations are at the right level. McCarey added that the survey results indicated a desire to have some of the Council meetings outside of Boston. She suggested that they would consider doing one meeting outside of Boston in 2019.

McCarey also noted that most Councilors said meetings were somewhat productive, which was not a great result but was also not a bad result. Malmstrom indicated that he felt time management was the biggest issue and added that agendas where the last presentation is cancelled or rushed is problematic. He suggested that a timer be included for presenters so they know how much time they have left. Boyd suggested that holding all questions until the end of the presentation would help Councilors prioritize which questions are most important to ask.

McCarey noted that there was a strong desire for more discussion time. She added that that goes back to the issue of time management. Gundal suggested that it would make sense to review the density of the agenda. McCarey agreed that meeting agendas are often too packed. Boyd noted that proposed agendas at the Executive Committee meetings used to have time estimates and asked if those could be reintroduced.

McCarey highlighted several other items that came out of the survey results and indicated that DOER would give a presentation on the full results at the next Council meeting.

5. Upcoming Meeting Agendas

June Council Meeting

McCarey reviewed the June agenda which would include a presentation on the Council survey results, presentations from the PAs and the C-Team on first quarter results, a presentation from the PAs on their municipal and non-profit partnership strategy, a presentation from the C-Team on residential program design, and an update from the CLC and Eversource on their ongoing negotiations.

Downey recommended that the CLC and Eversource update be postponed until the July meeting. McCarey indicated that she was okay with that. Boecke agreed and recommended that a brief update be given during Council updates.

Boyd suggested that more than fifteen minutes be allocated toward the municipal and non-profit partnership strategy agenda item. McCarey agreed and suggested that the time originally allocated towards the CLC and Eversource update could be reallocated towards the municipal and non-profit partnership strategy agenda item.

July Council Meeting

McCarey reviewed potential agenda topics which included passive house program design and incentives, home energy scorecards, small business delivery, RGGI report, and the CLC and Eversource negotiations update. McCarey indicated that an update on passive house would be needed at the July meeting given the timing of the program's roll out. McCarey added that she felt that the meeting could have more of a commercial and industrial (C&I) focus and noted that she asked the C-Team and the PAs if they had any ideas. Belliveau indicated that the C-Team suggested that they present some of their ideas on what energy optimization looks like in the C&I sector.

6. Adjournment

McCarey, as Chair, adjourned the Executive Committee at 4:02 PM.