



MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, December 20, 2017

100 Cambridge St, 2nd Floor

Conference Rooms B & C

Boston, MA 02114

Councilors Present: Eric Beaton (for Chrystal Kornegay), Don Boecke (for Maura Healey), Amy Boyd, Cindy Carroll, Elizabeth Cellucci, Larry Chretien, Maggie Downey, Frank Gundal (for Tilak Subrahmanian), Charlie Harak, Elliott Jacobson, Paul Johnson, Judith Judson, Richard Malmstrom, Deirdre Manning, Michael McDonagh, Jeremy Newberger, Laurie Pereira (for Trish Walker), Cammy Peterson (for Rebecca Davis), Victoria Rojo, Michael Sommer, Mary Wambui, Sharon Weber (for Martin Suuberg)

Councilors Absent: Michael Ferrante, Paul Gromer, Andrew Newman, Bob Rio

Consultants Present: Eric Belliveau, Craig Johnson, Margie Lynch, Jeff Schlegel

DOER Staff Present: Rachel Evans, Matt Rusteika, Arah Schuur

1. Call to Order

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

2. Public Comment

Steve Cowell of E4TheFuture gave public comment to the Council. Referencing H.1724, he recommended that DOER conduct an analysis to see if there are any impediments to the expansion of the definition of what measures can be implemented as part of the energy efficiency plans. He added that legal counsel should also look into the matter.

3. Council Updates and Business

Commissioner Judson began by thanking Arah Schuur for her time and commitment as Director of Energy Efficiency at DOER and with the Council. Schuur noted that it was an honor to have

served in her role. The Commissioner indicated that DOER had posted the position opening and are in the process of interviewing candidates.

EEAC Executive Committee Meeting Minutes – October 4, 2017

Emmett Lyne requested that the minutes be amended to reflect that Meera Reynolds was in attendance. Boyd motioned to approve the minutes as amended. Malmstrom seconded. All were in favor, with none opposed. Boecke abstained. The minutes were approved, as amended, by the Executive Committee (ExCom).

EEAC Meeting Minutes – November 15, 2017

Boecke motioned to approve the minutes as submitted. Manning seconded. All were in favor, with none opposed. Boyd and Harak abstained. The minutes were approved, as submitted, by the Council.

EEAC Executive Committee Meeting Minutes – December 6, 2017

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.

2018 Meeting Schedule

Rusteika introduced the proposed 2018 meeting schedule and noted that major milestones are also included on the calendar. He also noted that the February and September meetings would be held on the second Wednesday of the month and that the April meeting would be held on the fourth Wednesday of the month.

Planning Workshop Update

Schuur noted that the final planning workshop would be held on January 30, 2018. She indicated that the workshop would be focused on discussing demand management and coming to a consensus on the final recommendations. She added that it would be held at the MassHousing office at 1 Beacon Street, Boston, MA on the fourth floor.

Executive Committee Seat Opening

Schuur noted that there is an opening on the ExCom for a councilor representing residential and low-income customers. She noted that the goal was to have nominations and a vote at the full Council meeting in February. Schuur asked that any interested Councilors get in touch with Matt Rusteika.

4. New Moderate Income Delivery Strategy

Cheryl Harrington and Stephan Wollenburg gave a presentation on a new program delivery strategy for moderate income customers being tested by the PAs. In their presentation they gave an overview of its design, discussed outreach and enrollment, reviewed the budget and savings, and highlighted their plans for assessing lessons learned.

Wambui expressed concern that that PAs are only just now in the process of addressing the programs' reach within the segment of Massachusetts residents making between 60% and 80% of state median income (the "moderate income" segment). She added that she felt that the level

of commitment to the moderate income population needs to be increased. Wambui also asked what the income verification system is for the moderate income population. Harrington indicated that the PAs use the CAP agencies, which deliver the PA programs in the low-income sector and have been doing income verification for many years for LIHEAP and fuel assistance programs.

Chretien noted that he felt like the PAs' new moderate income delivery strategy is similar to what the Council authorized them to do three years ago. He added that he felt that the past few years of not working on this has been wasted time for the moderate income folks who have not been served. He added that he would advocate that this be part of the 2019-2021 Three-Year Plan.

Schuur indicated that DOER currently funds grants for pre-weatherization and asked how that might fit into the new moderate income delivery strategy. Wollenburg indicated that the PAs are working with LEAN on that.

Boyd asked if the primary driver of cost-effectiveness would be the incentive level or the cost of program delivery. Wollenburg indicated that cost-effectiveness is representative of the total effort and that the individual incentives can be affected by the limit of the total resource cost of measures. He added that they are currently approaching or at the limit for many appliances in the program. Wollenburg also noted that the DPU has advised that they may alter how cost-effectiveness is determined which may give the PAs some flexibility with what they can offer.

Cellucci indicated that the PAs understand the issues of equity raised by some of the Councilors. She noted that when she began implementing the moderate income service a few years ago she made a decision to use the HES vendors to do the work because if she had used the CAP agencies the customers would have likely ended up on a waiting list.

5. Quarterly Report for Q3 of 2017

Brandy Chambers and Steve Menges gave a presentation to the Council on the PA's Quarterly Report for Q3 of 2017. In the presentation, Chambers and Menges highlighted annual and three-year term progress to date for key metrics for both electric and gas. They also gave year-end forecasts for lifetime savings and spending for both electric and gas. They concluded with an update on their commitment to the Council's key priorities which included progress on 2016-2018 Plan commitments, 2019-2021 planning, equitable customer participation, data transparency, and demand side management.

Weber noted that C&I lifetime gas savings were only at 41% through the third quarter but were projected to reach well over 100% of goal. She asked if the PAs could explain the reason for this. Gundal indicated that their year-end "hockey-stick" is larger than normal. He added that they do their best to move projects along earlier in the year but sometimes they are at the whim of the customer.

Boyd asked if the PAs could explain why C&I participation is so low at just 39% to goal. Menges indicated that its likely an issue with their upstream products. He added that verifying participations can be challenging given that it is a manual process. He concluded that

participation was probably higher at the end of the third quarter but that the upstream participation numbers had not yet been updated.

6. Council Priorities for 2018

Malmstrom shared with the Council that the ExCom did a moderate amount of wordsmithing on the Council priorities for 2018 at their last meeting. He added that most of the changes had to do with the language associated with the exit and decline in the lighting market. He concluded by noting that the ExCom is happy with the priorities document in its current form.

Chretien indicated that he thought the priorities looked good. He asked that non-profit organizations be added to the fourth bullet of the first priority.

Johnson, referencing the second priority, asked how the PAs would be engaging with the Council consultants (C-Team) on the key drivers process. Belliveau indicated that the C-Team and the PAs would identify about ten items that would move the needle after the first draft of the plan. He noted that the C-Team and the PAs would then meet in May and June to work on those items.

Johnson asked why a priority centered on mid-term modifications (MTMs) was necessary. Schuur indicated that 2018 is the third year of the current plan and that MTMs are likely to happen during this time. She added that in the past MTMs have been rushed with little time for Council review and that the goal is to avoid that.

7. LED Streetlight Conversions

Matt Rusteika (DOER) and Patrick Roche (MAPC) gave a presentation to the Council on the status of LED streetlight conversions in Massachusetts. In their presentation they reviewed the benefits of converting streetlights to LEDs, gave an overview on streetlight technology, highlighted DOER and its partners' conversion grants and their impacts to date, as well as an update on conversions in progress. They also discussed LED streetlight rates and controls.

Boyd asked if towns have been hesitant to install streetlight controls because of the lack of a rate. Roche indicated that they have run into that challenge.

Newberger asked if the energy savings estimate was based on deemed values, an actual calculation or evaluated results. Rusteika indicated that the calculation was based on the results they have seen so far.

Johnson asked if there is a MassSave incentive for streetlight conversions in the C&I programs. Roche indicated that the streetlight projects go through the custom applications and typically receive an incentive of \$0.25 per kilowatt hours saved.

Belliveau asked whether the lights in the I-93 tunnels are owned by an electric utility, the Commonwealth, or the City of Boston. Commissioner Judson indicated that it depends on the location. She added that they are looking at Department of Transportation facilities where they

can and that they have initiated a plan with the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) to address platform lighting at stations.

8. Adjournment

Commissioner Judson, as Chair, adjourned the meeting at 3:32 PM.