



## MEETING MINUTES

**Tuesday, March 31, 2015**

100 Cambridge St, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Conference Rooms C and D  
Boston, MA 02114

**Councilors Present:** Marie Abdou (for Carol White), Donald Boecke (for Maura Healey), Amy Boyd, Dan Burgess, Cindy Carroll, Elizabeth Cellucci, Larry Chretien, Maggie Downey, Betsy Glynn, Elliott Jacobson, Paul Johnson, Richard Malmstrom, Deirdre Manning, Michael McDonagh, Alana Murphy (for Chrystal Kornegay), Andrew Newman, Robert Rio, Nancy Seidman (for Martin Suuberg), Michael Sommer, Tilak Subrahmanian, Brad Swing (for Austin Blackmon), Patricia Walker (for James Carey), John Wells (for Charles Harak), Eric Winkler

**Councilors Absent:** Michael Ferrante, Paul Gromer

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

**DOER Staff Present:** Ian Finlayson, Maggie McCarey, Alex Pollard, Aimee Powelka, Steve Venezia

**Others Present:** Maria Belen Power, Don Bianchi, JoAnn Bodemer, Marc Breslow, Brandy Chambers, Ben Cressy, David Gibbons, David Gold, Elisa Grammer, Jodi Hanover, Riley Hastings, Jeff Leupold, Chris Long, Emmett Lyne, Steve Menges, Cara Mottola, Matthew Nelson, Audrey Schulman, Margaret Song, Amy Vavak

### 1. Call to Order

Burgess called the meeting to order at 1:08 PM.

### 2. Public Comment

Elisa Grammer (47 Coffin Street Ratepayer Advocates) voiced support for the Council's draft resolution on its priorities for the upcoming Three-Year Plan. She encouraged the Council and the PAs to set goals for demand response, enlist customers to balance against supply, and use time-of-use rates, smart meters, and renewables to balance the grid. She also asked the PAs to think about whether their money should go to generation or towards building a better distribution system.

Don Bianchi (Massachusetts Association of Community Development Corporations) commented on a couple aspects of the Council's draft resolution on its priorities for the upcoming Three-Year Plan. With respect to expansion of eligibility under the Low Income LEAN Multifamily Program, he recommended that the EEAC clearly and narrowly define what non-profits would be eligible. He also suggested that data on the amounts provided to currently eligible multifamily building owners be included in the annual report so that the EEAC and the PAs could gauge the impact of expanded eligibility. He also commended the EEAC for several of its points in the multifamily section of its resolution.

Ben Cressy (Citizen of Dorchester) noted that many of the low-income families in his neighborhood are served by the fuel assistance program which acts as a gateway to projects such as weatherization. He noted that the short enrollment window of the fuel assistance program makes it difficult for those families to participate in programs and so he encouraged the Council and the PAs to work to establish a lengthened or year-round enrollment process for the fuel assistance program.

Audrey Schulman (Home Energy Efficiency Team) noted that many non-profit organizations are having a difficult time working through the Mass Save® system. She suggested that a liaison could help to address this issue and that providing better rebates to non-profits who do outreach could strengthen program access in hard to serve communities.

### **3. General Updates**

#### *EEAC Workshop Summaries*

Burgess proposed that all of the EEAC workshop summaries (listed below) be voted on at the same time rather than being voted on individually.

- C&I Workshop #1 – February 6, 2015
- Residential Workshop #1 – February 12, 2015
- C&I Workshop #2 – February 17, 2015
- Residential Workshop #2 – February 26, 2015
- Low-Income/Multifamily Workshop – February 26, 2015
- C&I Workshop #3 – March 3, 2015
- Residential Workshop #3 – March 9, 2015

Jacobson motioned to approve the workshop summaries as submitted. Rio seconded. All were in favor, with no opposed or abstaining. The workshop summaries were approved as submitted by the Council.

#### *EEAC Executive Committee Minutes – March 18, 2015*

Glynn motioned to approve the minutes as submitted. Malmstrom seconded. All were in favor, with no opposed or abstaining. The minutes were approved as submitted by the Executive Committee (EC).

*EEAC Executive Committee Minutes – March 23, 2015*

Boecke noted that the EC did not formally “approve” the facilitation budget. The minutes were amended to replace “approve” with “reviewed” in the facilitation budget section.

Malmstrom motioned to approve the minutes as amended. Glynn seconded. All were in favor, with no opposed or abstaining. The minutes were approved as amended by the EC.

*EEAC Meeting Minutes – March 10, 2015*

Boecke motioned to approve the minutes as submitted. Rio seconded. All were in favor, with no opposed. Seidman and Manning abstained. The minutes were approved by the Council.

**4. Council Planning**

Burgess highlighted the schedule for the next few months for the 2016-2018 planning process and noted that the Council needed to vote on a facilitation budget for two additional planning workshops.

Several Councilors made comments about the proposed schedule. Johnson suggested that the ECs discussion on the Three-Year Plan goals should take place earlier in April. Lyne recommended that the additional workshops be pushed back so that they are not concurrent with the PAs deadline for filing their progress reports. Winkler noted that three council meetings from April thru July would not allow sufficient time for discussion of the plan. Burgess noted that additional workshops would help alleviate that issue. Seidman encouraged the EC to think carefully about how time in upcoming council meetings would be utilized. Winkler and McDonagh recommended that Councilors be allowed to submit formal comments. Glynn recommended a hard deadline for submission of comments. Burgess noted that they would hold the schedule as is for the time being and would update Councilors if there were any changes.

*Vote on Facilitation Budget for Additional Workshops*

Swing motioned to approve the proposed budget of \$23,523 for Raab Associates to facilitate two additional EEAC workshops. Glynn seconded the motion. All were in favor, with no opposed or abstaining. The facilitation budget was approved.

**5. Resolution Concerning the Council’s Priorities for the 2016-2018 Plan**

Burgess cited the work that went into the process of drafting a resolution and invited members of the EC to expand on the process. Boyd noted that the resolution reflects the discussions and recommendations that came out of the workshops and that it has verbs and dates to make it actionable and trackable. She indicated that she looks forward to receiving feedback from the PAs to determine whether or not changes will be implementable. Boecke added that the resolution captures ideas and recommendations that were worthy of consideration. Malmstrom highlighted the difficulty of the process to convert workshop ideas into a resolution. He noted that not all ideas may be good ones, but that the resolution is a good start until the plans are drafted. Glynn concluded by noting that the resolution did not seek to generalize or prioritize any

of the recommendations coming out of the workshops. Lyne noted and highlighted comments that the PAs submitted for the Council's consideration regarding the resolution.

Following comments by the EC, there was a productive discussion amongst the Councilors about how to proceed with the resolution. Several of the Councilors, including Chretien, Jacobson, Johnson, Malmstrom, Seidman, and Swing noted that the resolution is not perfect as is, but that it represents a fair illustration of the recommendations that came out of the workshops and so it should be moved forward. A few other Councilors disagreed. McDonagh and Rio expressed concern about tying their name to some of the points in the resolution that they do not agree with. They proposed to include some of the language submitted by the PAs that would act as a caveat. Winkler noted that the execution of the resolution is not perfect as it did not allow for or incorporate comments from individual Councilors. He noted that he would not support the resolution if he were a voting member of the Council.

*Vote on the EEAC Resolution Concerning the Council's Priorities for the 2016-2018 Plan*

Glynn motioned to approve the "EEAC Resolution Concerning its Priorities for the Development, Implementation, and Evaluation of the 2016-2018 Three-Year Energy Efficiency Plans." Johnson seconded.

McDonagh motioned to insert the following language from the PAs to the first paragraph of Part 3 of the resolution: *"Not every councilor supports each specific recommendation (or all elements of each recommendation) below, but the Council resolves that each of the recommendations merits the thoughtful consideration of the PAs and, when applicable and material, the PAs should discuss in an appropriate forum (e.g., June stakeholder workshops) why they do not propose to adopt a recommendation."* Rio seconded the motion.

Boyd cautioned that this amendment could weaken the purpose of the resolution. McDonagh noted that he felt as though the language was a way for Councilors to go on record that they do not necessarily support everything in the resolution. Burgess, Glynn, Johnson, and Swing noted that the spirit of that is included in the resolution, as it is referred to as an iterative process.

McDonagh, Rio, and Boecke voted in favor of the motion to insert language from the PAs to the first paragraph of Part 3 of the resolution. Boyd, Burgess, Chretien, Glynn, Jacobson, Johnson, Malmstrom, Manning, Murphy, Seidman, Swing, and Wells opposed the motion. The motion did not pass.

Boecke, Boyd, Burgess, Chretien, Glynn, Jacobson, Johnson, Malmstrom, Manning, Murphy, Seidman, Swing, and Wells voted in favor of the motion to approve the "EEAC Resolution Concerning its Priorities for the Development, Implementation, and Evaluation of the 2016-2018 Three-Year Energy Efficiency Plans." McDonagh and Rio opposed the motion. The resolution was approved.

## **6. Blackstone Gas Company Proposal**

Schlegel noted that the Blackstone Gas Company's proposal to enter into an agreement with National Grid was discussed at the previous Council meeting. He noted that the consultant team (C-Team) would recommend that the Council approve the resolution on this matter.

Malmstrom motioned to approve the "Resolution of the EEAC Regarding the Proposal of Blackstone Gas Company." Rio seconded. All were in favor, with no opposed or abstaining. The resolution was approved.

## **7. Mid-Term Modifications**

Lyne noted that the PAs previewed the Mid-Term Modification (MTM) requests at the previous Council meeting. Schlegel noted that the C-Team drafted a single resolution for each of the four proposed MTMs of the Cape Light Compact, Unitil, Eversource, and the Berkshire Gas Company.

Rio motioned to approve the "Resolution of the EEAC Regarding Proposed Mid-Term Modifications of the Cape Light Compact, Unitil, Eversource, and the Berkshire Gas Company." Murphy seconded the motion. All were in favor, with no opposed or abstaining. The resolution was approved.

## **8. DPU 11.120 – PA Proposed Reporting Template for the 2013-2015 Plan**

Jodi Hanover presented to the Council on the PAs proposed reporting template for the Three-Year Term Report. She highlighted what the report would cover, which included data tables, cost-effectiveness, statutory requirements, the benefit cost ratio (BCR) model and technical reference manual (TRM), evaluation studies, and costs and incentives.

Finlayson noted that DOER recommended at the technical session that the PAs include measure mix in their BCR models because there is no indication what the funding sources are and what they are contributing to. Hanover noted that the PAs did not want estimated data to be included in a filing but that that the information could be provided somewhere else. Seidman recommended that this conversation be kept open and ongoing.

## **9. Avoided Energy Supply Cost (AESC) Study Update**

Schlegel noted that the AESC Study has been ongoing since the middle of 2013 and that the final report came out on March 27, 2015. He noted that the C-Team would be giving an update on the report's findings at the next Council meeting.

## **10. Adjournment**

Burgess adjourned the meeting at 4:02 PM.