

MELROSE ENERGY COMMISSION Meeting Minutes

Thursday, February 28, 2019 7:15

Cassidy Conference Room, City Hall

Attendees: Tyler Ballew, Susan Baron, David Bliss, Jeff Doody, Martha Grover, Krisiti Heiman, Ellen Katz, Cassandra Koualics, Lori Timmerman, Alanna Nelson, Howie Newman, Sunil Saini, Barbara Simko, Lisa Trimble

Secretary: Susan Baron

Guest: Carol Oldham

Welcome and introductions

Presentation: Carol Oldham MCAN Better Building Campaign

MCAN has launched a Better Building Code campaign in anticipation of the International Energy Efficiency Code (IECC) vote for changed base and stretch codes. Every three years this code is revised.

The upcoming IECC code proposals are a minor improvement. MCAN, Sierra Club and NEEP are advocating a more stringent base code and a net zero stretch code. Eligible officials will vote on the IECC code for new buildings built in the U.S.

- Voting timeline: voting closes November 27, 2019, but Primary representative registration must be complete by March 29, 2019.
- Melrose can have 4 votes. Massachusetts has 400 eligible officials
- Would like to gather interest for four votes (planning dept) Paul and Cathy are members.
- **Motion** made to write letter to Paul Johnson, Melrose Building Commissioner to encourage IECC voting participation in favor of MCAN code changes. (Make base code more efficient) – **So passed**
 - Ellen Katz will draft and send around. David B and Lisa T will review.
 - Will cc. Mayor, Martha Grover, Board of Alderman
 - Signatures will be of members present at this MEC meeting
- Asked to write letter to local officials in (board of alderman we know our community best) board and copy to governor and (bbrs) speaker and senate president
- Have sample letter
- **Motion** to write a letter to alderman for encourage to registration for IECC so that they can vote for MCAN supported building codes – **So passed**
 - Look into copying mayor, governor, house speaker and senate president.
- Passed out legislative agenda – environmental justice – 100% renewable energy
- Encourage talking to legislators about already drafted house and senate bills HD39321/SD2212

Energy Efficiency Manager Report -Martha Grover

- Martha just closed out 2018 green community projects
- In process of coming up with next round of funding to include
 - Beebe school boiler upgrade
 - VFD over gym space
 - Do infiltration reduction Ripley and Beebe schools
 - Getting quotes to upgrade Lincoln school boiler
 - Things need to be done in ESCO project
- Micro Grid project is going through feasibility study (Shaw's et)
- High school canopy project is not possible
- Met with chair condo association, The Towers. They are using electric heat and called Martha. Want to look at EV and solar. Will be providing presentation.
- Upcoming Events:
 - Healthy Melrose is on May 11th. – Lori will register for us. Signed up for EV showcase National Drive Electric week. Need to strategize where to put electric cars.
 - Lori will sign up MEC for Victorian fair and Healthy Melrose for this year and 2020 in order to use our funding and get on mailing lists
 - Tyler and Christie Will be on Chamber Chat

- Trivia Bee March 23th - - Tyler Lisa and Ellen- Jeff will be participating for MEC. Sponsor team (Bridge)
 - Lisa will contact firm to get sponsored. Martha will send address to Lisa

Solar Subcommittee update (Jeff)

- Highland Congregational Church is in interconnect stage. Live date is May 2019
- DOER Smart program work
- Have been making new solar contacts for commercial buildings
- Resident energy talking to Y MCA shared services about broad approach for Ys going solar
- Met with Melrose Bank and Resident bank about solar loans
 - Energy efficiency home loans have been working for bank community

EV Infrastructure Incentive Program Lori

- MAPC mailing – two weeks ago, got email about utility installation that seems generous -details are still being investigated
- Eversource and MAPC met to discuss goals for initial incentive programs
- Looking for new charging station locations

Climate Action Plan Subcommittee: Kristi

- Feb 13th Alderman Manisha Bewtra was guest. Looking to engage Board of Alderman and suggested summit for climate action plan
- Mark Sandeen will be guest speaker for next meet
- Consider Keith Bergman to do general public presentation

Geothermal Energy Special Interest Group (Sunil and David B.)

- Talked to installer, Melina head. There is program called HeatSmart program that we may want to join
- HeatSmart is working with other communities. Will consider undertaking down the road

Christie and Lori reaching out to groups like sierra club – may want to attend mid- March and may go to this.

Motion to adjourn - So passed 9:10

Next MEC meeting: Thursday, March 28th, Cassidy Conf Room, City Hall.

Future events of interest:

- March 6, MAPC, MetroCommon 2050 Listening Session, Hibernian Hall,184 Dudley Street, Boston, 3:00 pm to 8:00 pm, metrocommon.mapc.org.
- March 23th Trivia Bee, Memorial Hall
- May 11th: Healthy Melrose, High School Grounds

Upcoming 2019 MEC Meetings

March 28, April 25, May 23

June 27, July 25, NO AUGUST Meeting, September 26, October 24

November 21 (room tbd), NO DECEMBER Meeting

Cassidy Conference Room (unless noted)