



City of Ann Arbor

Meeting Minutes

Energy Commission

301 E. Huron St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
<http://a2gov.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

Tuesday, July 11, 2017

6:00 PM

Larcom City Hall, 301 E Huron St, Second floor, City Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER

Appleyard called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM

ROLL CALL

Present: 11 - Charles Hookham, Mike Shriberg, Mark Clevey, Shoshannah Lenski, Wayne Appleyard, Kenneth J. Wadland, Noah Levin, John Mirsky, Sarah Paleg, Jason Frenzel, and Carlene Colvin-Garcia

Absent: 1 - Brigit Macomber

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Mirsky wanted to add a brief update on the Metrics Subcommittee to be added to the agenda.

A motion was made by Commissioner Clevey and seconded by Commissioner Mirksy that the agenda be approved. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Commissioner Mirksy and seconded by Commissioner Lenski that the agenda be approved. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

17-1047 Minutes of the Ann Arbor Energy Commission May 9, 2017 Meeting

Attachments: Energy Commission Minutes 5-9-17.pdf

PUBLIC INPUT

No public input.

ENERGY REPORT - NEWS FROM THE ENERGY OFFICE AND COMMISSIONERS

Staff made an announcement for Ann Arbor Public Library's summer game players.

Energy audit contract for municipal buildings will be performed by Honeywell.

The City will partake in the Bloomberg Mayors Challenge to hold a big ideas workshop to help the City come up with ideas to address the most pressing issues facing the City. A facilitated workshop will occur late summer after issue(s) to focus on are identified.

Staff presented an update on the Ann Arbor Solar Club, including solar power hours and other outreach along with an update on installation numbers, which to date show a 60% jump in activity from the previous year. Commissioner Mirsky added that the jump in installations was an improvement but falls short of the targets set forth by the Commission.

Ann Arbor SPARK Presentation - Bill Mayer

An overview of SPARK's work was followed by profiles of a number of start-up companies in the energy field. Bill Mayer works with tech startups at SPARK. The companies Mr. Mayer presented on include Arborwind, a company that manufactures vertical axis wind turbines. He also presented on sensors by Civionics, which could be put on building equipment parts of an HVAC system to gather data and lead to system efficiency improvements. Commissioner Mirsky asked if the sensor could be used during the Honeywell audit to which staff explained that Honeywell already have their own data-logging sensors that they rely on but the company's information would be shared. Another company, Solar Tonic, produces a streetlight pole that runs as an independent unit apart from the grid using solar collectors. Commissioners and staff were interested in pricing and sizes, to which Bill Mayer said that Solar Tonic had a suite of options. EVjump solar is working on creating more efficient solar panel solutions. Purity, a company that mirrors DTE's energy bridge but instead of measuring instantaneous energy use, Purity is working on a sensor that would measure residential water consumption.

Bill Mayer also presented on products that the City has already partnered with local companies on. These products include H2O sensors throughout the sewer system to measure changes in water flow. This allows people to watch for abnormalities in water pressure. Movatic is an app that helps individuals travel across different modes of transportation. Ann Arbor will be the 7th city to

use a beta version of their app. Finally, Mr. Mayer presented on a system being created by Applied Engineering Technologies to handle water flow during storms.

Commissioner Clevey pointed to the CAP and the need for innovations that would help meet targets.

[17-1046](#) (Ann Arbor SPARK Presentation to Energy Commission, May 9, 2017)

Attachments: SPARK Presentation 7-2017.pptx

Ready for 100 Campaign - Sierra Club, Andrew Sarpolis

Andrew Sarpolis is an associate organizing representative for the state Sierra Club. He presented on the Ready for 100 Campaign. The goal of the Ready for 100 Campaign is to eliminate dirty/fossil fuels by having cities make a pledge to go 100% renewable. In the state of Michigan, Grand Rapids, Northport, and Traverse City have all committed to 100% renewables, along with several mayors who have signed on. He argued that solar panels are less expensive than conventional combustion in the majority of states.

Commissioners had questions for him concerning the details of the pledge. Commissioner Mirsky asked about the timetable and options other cities had taken in completing the pledge. Sarpolis replied that the time ranged as did the way that cities planned to meet the target. Chair Appleyard asked if the commitment was city wide or just for municipal buildings. Sarpolis answered that unless the city had its own municipal utility, cities are generally looking at municipal operations.

Commissioner Lenski wanted to clarify a few points in the presentation. There was a conversation among the commissioners as to whether Mayor Taylor signing onto similar pledges already was enough or whether they should look for City Council support. The Commission also discussed whether the resolution was aspirational in nature or whether they should lay out a plan to meet it. The Commission proceeded to edit a resolution of support but ultimately tabled discussion and changes and sent it to the Renewable Energies Subcommittee to discuss the matter further during an August meeting.

[17-1044](#) (#Readyfor100 Campaign Presentation to Energy Commission, May 9, 2017)

Attachments: #Readyfor100 Campaign Slides.pptx

Citizen Climate Lobby 2016 Resolution Support Discussion - Commissioners

Chair Appleyard explained that they had passed this same resolution in January of 2016, but Council didn't take action or adopt it.

The resolution as amended passed on a voice vote (Commissioner Hookham voted nay).

17-1048 Resolution to Support the Carbon Fee and Dividend Plan Proposed by the Citizens' Climate Lobby

Community GHG Data and Targeting - Staff (Josh MacDonald)

Staff Josh MacDonald presented on Ann Arbor's Greenhouse Gas Emission inventory. He noted that there was an 18% reduction in community emissions from 2000 to 2015. He looked at how DTE contributed to the reductions, as well as the North Campus Research Center (NCRC), which had shifted from being counted as part of the community to part of the University of Michigan's emissions-base. He noted that there was 21% drop in greenhouse gases attributed to electricity generated from DTE, as well as a 3% drop in electricity attributed to the North Campus Research Center being counted as separate from the community. There was also a 9% drop in emissions from natural gas attributed to the North Campus Research center being counted as part of the University of Michigan. Upgrades in furnaces, LED Lights, Energy STAR appliances, and behavioral changes also contributed to the remaining drop in greenhouse gases (around 7%).

Staff Josh MacDonald also looked at announcements made by DTE of an 80% GHG reduction from 2005 by 2050 in its energy generation as well as future vehicle CAFÉ standards to forecast Ann Arbor's emissions. He showed that if we continue on the current path, we will hit our 2025 goals but miss our 2050 goals by a long shot. According to these predictions, by 2050, natural gas and transportation will make up the majority of Ann Arbor's emissions. Considering the 2050 numbers, natural gas-impacting energy efficiency and using solar paired with electric vehicles and water heaters could be a focus to reduce natural gas and transportation emissions.

Commissioner Shriberg had a question as to how the University

counted their emissions with respect to the NCRC. Chair Appleyard remarked that natural gas has its flaws and that we should be aiming to get away from combustion in any form for generating electricity. Commissioner Mirsky remarked that the Commission should look for ways to target natural gas and transportation further as a major focus, given this information.

17-1045 (Community GHG Data and Targeting Presentation to Energy Commission, May 9, 2017)

Attachments: Community GHG Data and Targeting_updatedfinal.pptx

Memorandum Regarding Allocation of Climate & Sustainability Funding

Chair Appleyard covered the Environmental Commission's resolution on how to spend recurring funding for climate and sustainability. The commissioners discussed the different parts of the plan on how to spend the money as outlined by the other Commission. Some commissioners were also reassured that there was transparency as to how the money was going to be spent. Commissioner Mirsky added that the Submetrics Committee was working on metrics to track changes and progress on sustainability targets. Chair Appleyard pointed out the importance of having continuity in staff.

On a voice vote, the body supported the recommendations memorandum proffered by the Environmental Commission, with Commissioner Lenski being the sole dissenting vote.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Climate Action Plan

No further update (covered in GHG presentation)

Renewable Energies

Commissioner Mirsky gave a broad overview of the new Community Solar Subcommittee

Sustainable Funding

The commissioners discussed the possibility of allocating the

millage for county police/safety and mental health in Ann Arbor partly to sustainability efforts. The millage would last 8 years and roughly \$1,000,000 of it could go towards sustainability and other related issues, per year, since Ann Arbor already has infrastructure for safety services and could be effectively rebated the portion residents contribute annually to the county-wide safety millage.

PUBLIC INPUT

No public input.

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Commissioners decided to have an August work session meeting to further discuss the 100% renewable resolution for municipal operations (typically the body is on recess that month).

ADJOURNMENT

The Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM

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City Clerk's Office
301 E. Huron St.
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