

ENERGY & CLIMATE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, May 8, 2019, 3:00 PM
Parks and Recreation Building
312 Washington Street, Room 11

Members Present:

Dr. Ann Shedd, Chair
Peter Hansel, Vice Chair
Terry Clark, Councilor
Chris Brehme
Jess Baum
Jake Pipp
Larry Dachowski, Alternate
Cary Gaunt, Alternate

Staff Present:

Mari Brunner, Acting Planner
Shaylin Salas, Communications and Outreach Intern

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Dr. Shedd called meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. and conducted roll call.

2. Energy Plan**a. ECC Role**

Ms. Brunner stated that it would be helpful for staff to understand how much time and effort committee members are willing and able volunteer for the development of an energy plan. She reviewed a handout that includes four different levels of time commitment, starting from *Informed* (low time commitment), *Advise* (low-medium time commitment), *Assist* (medium time commitment), and *Lead Process* (high time commitment). ECC members took turns discussing their intentions and availability in the energy plan process using Ms. Brunner's guide.

Chris Brehme said he is between *Informed* and *Advise* (low to medium time commitment); however, he noted that he could work with students to help the committee with tasks. Jess Baum said she is between *Advise* and *Advise/Assist* (low to medium time commitment), and could help with clearly defined tasks that have a specific timeframe attached to them. Terry Clark said he is between *Advise/Assist* and *Lead* (medium to high time commitment). Peter Hansel and Ann Shedd both said they are in the "*Advise/Assist*" category, and Larry Dachowski said that he is resigning from the committee and as such, he would not be participating in the development of the plan as a committee member.

b. Communications and Outreach

Shaylin Salas introduced herself and her work thus far with the City. She then discussed the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) public participation spectrum, which illustrates the range of public impact in community engagement processes. The spectrum has five levels of impact starting with *Inform* and moving up to *Empower*. The group went on to discuss the various community groups that they intend to reach during the communications and outreach process. The list started with key stakeholder sectors (residential, business/commercial, and institutional), the general public (Keene only), and agriculture/conservation groups; and at the end of the discussion grew to also include all public in the greater Keene area, environmental groups, energy providers/contractors and financial institutions, low and moderate income communities, and the transportation sector.

Jess Baum pointed out that although the Energy Plan is energy-specific, the group should consider the greater “climate” context of this initiative. An important area, for example, is in thinking and talking about land use with the agriculture/conservation communities. Ms. Baum articulated that while the focus of the plan is renewable energy, there are other climate and resilience actions that should be incorporated where possible. Ms. Baum also included that young people should be specifically targeted and included as a stakeholder category.

Cary Gaunt asked whether faith groups were included in the “institutional” sector, and the group felt that this made sense. Jake Pipp said that commercial real estate should be added to the stakeholder list. Ann Shed noted that the Transportation sector contributes a majority of the City’s greenhouse gas emissions. For this reason, it is crucial that we engage this sector.

Ms. Brunner asked committee members to assign a public impact goal to each of the stakeholder groups. At the end, the committee decided on the following:

Community Group	Public Impact
General Public (including greater Keene area)	Inform/Consult (we want to hear their needs and concerns)
Stakeholder sectors: Residential, business/commercial, and institutional users	Collaborate (we want their buy-in)
Conservation & Ag Commission	Collaborate (we want their help in implementation)
Energy Providers and Contractors/ PUC/ Financial Institutions	Collaborate (we want their help in implementation)
Low and Moderate Income Populations	Inform/Consult (we want to hear their needs and concerns)
Transportation	TBD

Ms. Salas led the group in a discussion about engagement tools. The committee reviewed the list of tools included in the meeting packet and discussed which tools would be helpful for each stakeholder group. Ms. Salas explained the concept of a “meeting-in-a-box” and the group felt that it would be a useful tool. The committee decided to explore using the following engagement tools:

Community Group	Engagement Tool(s)
All	Website, Videos
General Public (including greater Keene area)	Meetings-in-a-box, Displays/Exhibits, Surveys (with incentives)
Stakeholder sectors: Residential, business/commercial, and institutional users	Stakeholder interviews, Focus groups, Meetings-in-a-box
Conservation & Ag Commission	Implementation group
Energy Providers and Contractors/ PUC/ Financial Institutions	Implementation group
Low and Moderate Income Populations	Community dialogues
Transportation	TBD

Chris Brehme said that he has done a number videography projects and is willing/excited to use his drone for communications-related filming.

With 15 minutes left, Ms. Brunner introduced the draft communications and outreach two-year plan. The committee discussed which items should happen at what time. The group discussed the Radically Rural Summit and how the City may be able to contribute to the event's renewable energy theme.

Ms. Brunner said that staff would take the feedback from the committee and provide a summary at the next ECC meeting in June. Staff will attempt to create a communications and outreach timeline to include in the June meeting packet. She thanked everyone for their participation in the meeting.

3. Other Business

No other business was discussed.

4. Next Meeting: June 5, 2019

Respectfully submitted by,

Shaylin Salas, Communications and Outreach Intern

Reviewed and edited by Mari Brunner, Acting Planner