

Chevy Chase Climate Protection Task Force

Minutes of 10/25/06 Meeting at Leland Center Meeting Room

Participants: Rob Enelow, Andy Knaus, Judy McGuire, Stu Sessions

Judy reported briefly on the affirming ICLEI meeting that she attended in Annapolis. The members present then discussed the following topics:

(1) Streetlights.

Renewable energy purchase: Rob confirmed that the Town has approved both the purchase of renewable energy credits for six months and the authority to join the Montgomery County Clean Energy Partnership for negotiations for a contract for next year (2007). The partnership takes bids on its collective renewable energy needs.

Judy reported that she has learned at the recent ICLEI regional meeting that the Town has “missed the boat” on negotiations through the Partnership, and won’t be able to participate in the Clean Energy partnership until July 2008.

Christine observed that negotiations for the 2008 contracts are likely to start in 2007.

Action: Rob will relay the Committee’s recommendation that the Town continue to purchase renewable energy credits through until the Town is able to conclude a contract through the Clean Energy Partnership. Judy and Christine will follow up with a note to Rob that he can bring to the Town Council.

Management of street lights: Judy pointed out that the Town also missed the opportunity to participate in a meeting with PEPCO of several townships to discuss improved services, quicker maintenance response and expanded lamp selections and bulb replacements.

Action: Rob will talk to the Town Manager about finding out how to get on the list of notification of the next such meeting. The Town would in particular be interested in replacing streetlight bulbs with LED lighting which is much more efficient.

(2) Compact fluorescent lightbulb project.

Judy relayed Betsy's proposal to step up the lightbulb program to something more systematic and widespread. Judy sees such a plan as an opportunity to better understand how many people in the Town are interested in such issues, and why. The lightbulb program could also be a topic and activity for the block get-togethers proposed by the Visioning committee.

Action: Andy and Judy will give thought to a plan.

(3) Green houses.

Judy introduced the proposal that the Town pass green building standards that would help make new houses much more efficient, sustainable, and climate-friendly. They would also apply to renovations. Rob assured the committee that the Visioning committee has this as a goal for the Town, although no specifics have been discussed about how to achieve it.

Judy proposed inviting Stephen Muse, a resident and green architect, to give a presentation on the latest developments in this area, on the condition that committee members help ensure that there would be a good turnout. The committee agreed but decided

to work with the visioning committee on this. Rob noted that all are invited to join in the next meeting of the Visioning committee on the following Monday at 6:30PM.

(4) Greenhouse gas assessment.

The draft grid and methodology for an assessment of Town emissions in 1990 and at present was discussed. Possible data sources were identified for some of the items (electricity consumption, land space, car use, and others).

Stu will call PEPCO to try to get electricity consumption information. Stu, Judy, Rob will plan to set up a meeting with the Town's Todd Hoffman and Dave Walton, who would be very helpful in locating information and data sources.

The next meeting of the committee is scheduled for the 4th Tuesday of November (Nov. 28).