

Minutes of the Climate Protection Committee (CPC) 10/28/2008

Attendees:

Judy McGuire
Dian Seidel
Betsy Johnson
Andy Knaus
Betsy Haddad
Rob Enelow (Council Liaison)

Note that underlined portions of the minutes indicate action items for members of the Committee.

Updates from the working groups:

1. **Efficiency of Existing Homes** – Michael and Judy – addresses changes needed to the building and its appliances.
 - Weatherstripping workshop Nov. 9 to be done at Michael Whelan's house: 1st 10 or 20 people to have audits will get some free stuff
 - Nov. 18, public presentation on home energy audits, Town Hall, 7:30. To have State Energy Star representative, Live Green LLC and Ardently Green LLC, and some homeowners who have had audits (Diane Dorfman, Andy Knaus, and others).
2. **Climate Corps** – Dian – to engage high school students and retirees to address life style changes that residents can make to reduce their footprints.

Dian reported that she made connections with BCC Green Schools Club formerly funded by state to green up the schools. They liked the proposal because they needed a new mission. The teacher advisor was concerned about the time commitment and safety concerns (going door to door) but when Dian sat down with her she got excited about it. There's a Nov. 15th training on how to do audits to measure energy use. Michael Whelan and Dian to go and students (as available) from the BCC Club. Townspeople will opt in to get the audit – students will have IDs so people won't be concerned about safety. Bethesda Green is engaged in a similar effort with other high schools so it's challenging to see how to make these things work together.

3. **Transportation** – Betsy and Andy – to address ways to reduce automobile use by residents

The following are ideas for approaching transportation:

- Do a survey to elicit views on transportation (openness to car pooling, biking, car sharing, walking, etc)
- Pedometers for everyone who wants one to encourage walking – maybe could do a group walk around town
- Bike rack in parking lot by Farm Women’s Market
- Work with County to get more bike racks in downtown areas - (Bethesda Green)
- Flex car in town (Betsy will call them and find out what they need from us to do this)
- Bike Day (to get bikes fixed)
- publicize that Ride On buses are free for those over 65 (Betsy will research and write up who qualifies and how to apply)
- possible shuttle to start up when Woodmont Ave is closed. Would need transportation study.

4. **LEED New Homes** – Carla Graeff – to devise a set of incentives to promote LEED Silver, Gold or Platinum level certification for all new homes built in town.

No update

5. **Monitoring** – Stewart – to monitor the town’s progress toward meeting the greenhouse reduction goal.

No update

6. **Communication** – Judy - to support the other working groups by implementing a communication program to alert town residents to our activities.

- Focus groups taking shape – need 5-8 more people to participate. Wine and cheese will be served as an incentive. Committee members asked to please recruit and addition one or two potential focus group participants.
- UMD students working on focus group, development of logo, T-shirts, etc.
- They (the students) will make a presentation to the town sometime in March (probably). Dian asked that they also make a presentation to high school students.

Judy wants the council to approve the plan as presented and consider specific project and budget proposals later. Rob thinks there’s broad support on the council for the basic plan.

Next Climate Protection Committee meeting is December 2.

At December 10 Town Council Meeting the Chevy Chase Challenge will be voted on (unless drastic revisions required after work session, Nov. 6).

The meeting adjourned at 9:30PM

Submitted by Betsy Johnson