

Minutes of the Climate Protection Committee (CPC) 7/28/2009

Attendees:

Judy McGuire
Suzanne Parmet
Dian Seidel
Betsy Johnson
Daniel Button
Warren Rizzi (Staff support)
David Lublin (Council Liaison)

List of Personal Actions to Reduce Global Emissions:

We reviewed Judy's list of what we would ultimately like every household in the Town to do to do to reduce its climate footprint. Suggestions were made to format differently by category of activity and level of difficulty. Judy will incorporate suggestions and she asked that we all think about how to use it. Committee members to send comments and suggestions to Judy by August 7th.

Modus Operandi for the Climate Committee:

We discussed Dian's suggestion from last meeting to work as a committee rather than as working groups on CPC initiatives. While it made sense for some working groups (Green Homes) to work separately (especially because it has been difficult to find a convenient time for all to meet), most members suggested that the whole committee should work on events. A lead person or persons would be appointed for each activity and they would bring in the rest of the committee as needed. The committee agreed to try to be flexible and available to help out on each working group's project.

Climate Corps:

Warren reported that the Climate Corps has had around 22 requests for home visits. The students who have participated think it's going great. Warren will follow up with the students and get some feedback on what their experiences have been and what could make the program better.

We discussed whether to continue the program in the fall and next year. Problems would be that the current students would be dispersed geographically; the need to train new students and scarce resources to do that. The Committee agreed to attempt to pursue this further but there was much discussion about whom to recruit for the Climate Corps (high school students? Local non-resident college students? Others?).

Some suggestions:

- 1) Ask each student if they want to come back.
- 2) Ask one of the college students if s/he would like to take the lead on recruitment and training next year.

Suzanne reported that Pepco will be offering a similar service in the future as required by PSC. That may preclude the need for climate corps done by students. Suzanne will follow this and give us an update on Pepco's schedule and activities.

Dian will follow up with Climate Corps members and those who have had checkups to see what their opinion of the program was and will make recommendations to the committee.

Other items:

Judy will be having a demo energy audit at her house on October 25th

We need someone to volunteer to host another demo weather-stripping workshop.

We will for people who have had energy audits and did the follow up work to have them show people their houses and talk about their experiences. Judy will be calling all residents who have had audits to get their assessment of the experience and some quotable quotes. She will ask them if they are willing to host a block party.

Town sponsored energy audits.

David Lublin presented his idea for a program of incentives for town residents to get energy audits. Under his suggested program up to 100 residents would receive a \$350 incentive payment for a home energy audit.

Discussion ensued about whether the incentive should cover the full cost of the audit or whether it should be split with part going for the audit and part going for follow up work. The committee approved the concept in principle and asked Suzanne and David to come up with an alternative proposal to be presented and discussed by the committee via email.

If David is going to be present, this will be discussed at the September Town Council meeting; if he is absent, then it will be postponed to the October meeting. David will run the basic proposal by Kathy Strom for guidance and put it on the agenda for the appropriate Town Council meeting.

Next meeting will be on August 25. Judy will be absent at that time.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM

Submitted by Betsy Johnson