

Energy Futures Task Force – Minutes – prepared by Amanda Siano, Minute Recorder

Meeting Date: September 8, 2016 - Minutes Approved September 22, 2016

Attendees: Pam Hill, Chair, Elise Woodward, John Dalton, Dan Gainsboro, Brian Foulds, Wally Johnston

Citizens: Fran Cummings, Brendan, Laura Scott, CMLP, Rebecca, Brad Hubbard Nelson

Preliminary matter: Continuation of citizen comments from August 25, 2016 meeting from Fran Cummings – Fran made several suggestions and shared his thoughts to the EFTF. **1.** Focusing on municipalities around the country that are leading in carbon reduction and energy efficiency, including: Austin, Smud, Sacramento and Ft Collins. **2.** Identifying the cost of carbon and how the town might use this “cost” when making decisions for purchases. **3.** Noting the efforts of Boston Climate Planning and their new initiative called Carbon Free Boston, which focuses on goals for 2030. **4.** The importance of energy efficiency as a first fuel and adopting energy efficiency goals of IOUs which are clearly defined. **5.** Home labeling was also mentioned as important issue to be considered. Pam Hill asked Fran to submit written notes to capture and summarize his comments. Fran will email his notes to EFTF.

- 1. Approval of minutes:** Elise Woodward provided minutes for approval from the August 25, 2016 meeting. Motion to unanimously approve was accepted.
- 2. Correspondence:** No updates at this time.
- 3. Chair’s report:** **1.** Andrew Mara is still transitioning as Ruth’s replacement. The hope is that Andrew will be available to take on some the responsibilities of creating meeting packets which include materials EFTF looks at during meetings and minutes for approval. As previously discussed, they will be part of the public’s easily accessible materials. Andrew is not expected to be fully engaged with EFTF for a while. Until further notice EFTF members will distribute electronic materials to each other, but keep in mind the objective is to report to the public as much as possible. **2.** With regard to resources, Chair is in touch with Amy Foley in HR with regard to the \$5,000 in funds. **3.** Elise and Pam had a productive meeting with the Concord Business partnership. Minutes from that meeting will be available soon.
- 4. Resources: administrative support, volunteers, interns:** No update at this time.
- 5. Task force working group work plan updates:** Individual updates from EFTF members will be held in order to focus on single work plans at each meeting. Today an Energy and Emissions update will be presented by Brian Foulds. As a reminder, meetings will be used to cover individual working groups’ presentations, updates and direction of ideas. In an effort to accommodate meeting date scheduling conflicts Elise Woodward and Wally Johnston will switch presentation dates. Elise will present best practices September 22nd and Wally will present stakeholders October 6th.

-Energy and emissions (Brian Foulds)

Update to follow.

-Other cities and towns/best practices (Elise Woodward)

Update held at this time as previously mentioned.

-Government documents (Pam Hill)

Update held at this time as previously mentioned.

-CMLP (Dan Gainsboro)

Update held at this time as previously mentioned.

-Stakeholders up-date (Wally Johnston)

Wally will provide EFTF with an updated spreadsheet of stakeholders and a draft version of survey questions during the first part of the week of September 12, 2016. The spreadsheet is to include a list of individuals along with possible categories of those who have been targeted to complete the survey. EFTF will begin to publicize the upcoming survey to the community in a variety of ways to capture a broad range of input. For example; surveys could be sent electronically, Mike Lawson could be asked to publicize the survey at the Chair's breakfast, Chairs of committees could ask committee members to reply to the survey, the focus groups with the superintendent group. The target is to have the survey ready for distribution the week of October 17, 2016, which is also the week of the Public Meeting. The survey kick off will be on October 20, 2016, immediately following the upcoming Public Meeting. As the meeting is promoted there could be an electronic link to the survey for the entire town. The idea of having focus groups for the survey was discussed. Wally will be unavailable for the September 22nd and the September 30th meetings. During Wally's absence, Dan will serve as Wally's surrogate and will be responsible for bringing updated stakeholder materials to the meetings. As a reminder from the Chair, transmittal memos from the EFTF to the public must be standardized.

- 6. Subject for discussion: Energy and emissions inventory (Brian Foulds):** A majority of this meeting was dedicated to discussing Brian Foulds's presentation titled, *Counting for Carbon*. This document may be found on the Town of Concord website under the *Important Documents* heading.
- 7. Final Report Structure:** Rather than focus on final report there was discussion of the structure of the upcoming Public Meeting and what each EFTF member will be producing and presenting.
- 8. Subjects/Schedule for upcoming meetings:** A discussion ensued regarding a second public meeting and the need for additional meetings to accomplish task force goals. **1.** EFTF will prepare for a Public Meeting on October 20, 2016 that may be in addition to a previously scheduled meeting to be held closer to the end of the process. The October 20th meeting will be held in the Hearing Room at the Town House. During this meeting EFTF members will present a narrowing of task force activities, suggested issues and important items to note. Elise Woodward suggested the Public Meeting should be a presentation of draft recommendations not the draft report. **2.** Two additional meetings are planned. One meeting will be held on September 30th another meeting date is to be determined. Brian Foulds commented that any additional meetings should focus on substance rather than process. Specific topics and reviewing work should be priorities, rather than discussing plans moving forward. Substance meetings will result in EFTF progress. **3.** Dan Gainsboro expressed his desire for a dedicated meeting for the topic of CMLP. EFTF members agreed. Pam and John will work together to revise the master meeting schedule.
- 9. Citizen Comments: Laura Scott, CMLP:** Laura commented on the difference between carbon reductions and RECs, and the charge of the task force as well as the need for a public standard of measure. A discussion ensued about these topics. As a representative from CMLP, Laura was asked to provide input and commentary on EFTF topics and presentations.

Rebecca Woodward: With regard to the survey, Rebecca asked if the public will see a draft before it is distributed. Wally Johnston responded that a draft will not be distributed; rather survey questions will be reviewed with in the EFTF meetings. The public is invited to email suggestions and comments regarding the survey to EFTF. Rebecca was asked to provide feedback about the survey and submit it to the Chair.

Brad Hubbard Nelson, Concord Sustainable Energy Committee: Brad made note of CSEC meeting next Tuesday with an agenda to follow on September 9th. The CSEC is currently looking to fill open positions and is interested in EFTF members who have energy experience to fill the spots. Brad also congratulated the Task force on the progress made thus far.

Fran Cummings: **1.** RPS provide a basis for RECs to be real. RECs don't need to be thought of as a proxy. There is a whole accounting system for REC's which is overseen very carefully. The Attorney General's opinion and laws of commerce apply to what one is doing and this governs our claims. **2.** The important thing about recs and offsets is that it means we can have goals that are either 100% renewable or 100% clean energy with 0% greenhouse gas emissions. There is basis for the report to say that goals can and should be 0% greenhouse gas emissions.