

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

Meeting Date: September 30, 2016 - Minutes Approved 10-20-16

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

Citizens: Brendan Donoghue, Laura Scott, CMLP, Brad Hubbard Nelson, CSEC

Preliminary Matter: With regard to the October 6, 2016 meeting, Pam and Elise will not be available to attend. However, there is a possibility that Elise may become available. There will be a quorum to hold the meeting. Brian will act as Co-Chair. Agenda item updates will be held for a future meeting to allow time to focus on the scheduled CMLP presentation and related discussion.

1. **Approval of minutes:** The approval of minutes from the September 22, 2016 meeting was deferred to the next meeting.
2. **Correspondence:** Update held as previously mentioned.
3. **Chair's report:** Update held as previously mentioned.
4. **Resources: administrative support, volunteers, interns:** Update held as previously mentioned.
5. **Task force working group work plan updates:**
 - Energy and emissions (Brian Foulds)
 - Other cities and towns/best practices (Elise Woodward)
 - Government documents (Pam Hill)
 - CMLP (Dan Gainsboro)
 - Stakeholders up-date (Wally Johnston)
6. **Subject for discussion: Concord Municipal Light Plant (John Dalton and Dan Gainsboro):** A majority of this meeting was dedicated to discussing John's and Dan's presentations titled, *CMLP Issues: Rates and Renewable Energy Procurement*. This document may be found on the Town of Concord website under the *Important Documents* heading. This presentation will serve to raise issues that EFTF would propose to potentially bring forth at the Public Meeting on October 20, 2016. During the October 13, 2016 meeting that Dave Wood, CMLP Director, has been invited to attend, issues that have been identified will be discussed with the hopes of obtaining Dave's feedback and perspective. Dave has been informed as this document was created and is aware of the need for alignment. John proposed the EFTF have concrete items for discussion at the October 13th meeting with Dave. **1.** Brian Foulds commented that rates not only influence how customers consume electricity but can prohibit what they can do to generate their own renewable energy while producing new technology as well. This concept could be added to the list of issues. **2.** At the October 6th meeting John & Dan will: **A.** provide proposed recommendations with respect to rate issues; **B.** provide a longer term objective in terms of renewable procurement practices for CMLP; **C.** provide proposed long term overall goals along with supporting analysis. **4. Review of Chapter 164 by Dan Gainsboro:** The purpose of Chapter 164 is an act relative to restructuring the electricity utility industry in the Commonwealth regulating the provision of electricity and other services and promoting enhanced consumer protections therein. Dan provided a brief review of the document, cited certain sections and

highlighted important points that pertain to EFTF concerns. **1.** This is a large and complex document subject to interpretation and has been refined by case law. Dan will provide a link to the 1,000-page document for those that wish to review. As previously mentioned CMLP typically requests interpretation on those things that it doesn't feel comfortable with. **2.** There does seem to be latitude for change within the document. One surprising section of the law noted by Dan was an area that suggested the town could write, revise and oppose their own laws if they encounter a specific operational aspect that was an issue. **3.** EFTF goals may encounter certain limitations relating to scope and reach of what is attempting to be accomplished. **5.** Walter Foskett provided Dan with a 6-page overview of Chapter 164. Dan will confirm authority to share the document with TF members and Laura Scott. **6.** The potential barriers and the possibility of concluding that something is a barrier when it may not be in Chapter 164 was discussed as an important point to keep in mind.

- 7. Review of Task Force Charge:** To be reviewed at a future meeting.
- 8. Outline for public meeting (Dan Gainsboro):**
 - 1.** A brief discussion ensued regarding an outline that Dan had emailed to the TF. Visual materials to be used for the public presentation were considered as well as a budget for production of materials. Amy Foley was recommended as the town contact person to speak to regarding the funds.
 - 2.** There has been debate as to whether the October 20th date is considered a hearing or a meeting. For EFTF purposes it is considered a meeting seeking public input.
 - 3.** With regard to the meeting notice, Mike Lawson will get back to Pam concerning the notice format.
 - 4.** The meeting will be a two-hour event, 7:00 pm until 9:00 pm. Elise suggested establishing a strategy for length of time for both presentations and public comments. The order of events will be presentations first with each presenter allowed five minutes. The remainder of the meeting time will be open for public comments. In an effort to stay on schedule and allow enough time for public comments TF members agreed that presentations will be conveyed with clear succinct information and presentations will not be interactive. Presenters should be mindful in recognizing the audience's level of engagement.
 - 5.** Elise and Dan discussed item #4 on Dan's outline and how it relates to Best Practices.
 - 6.** Stakeholder interviews should be inventoried and categorized into which have been completed and which still need to be completed. Notes from completed interview should be shared between EFTF members for review. At the next meeting Brian will review and record how many of the original 7 or 8 interviews have been completed. Next step will be to speak to Wally to determine his availability to lead this part of the discussion.
- 9. Citizen comments: Brad Hubbard Nelson, CSEC:** Brad inquired about the status of interviews, and mentioned that he had been contacted by Wally for an interview, but the interview has not occurred yet.