

**CITY OF SOUTH PORTLAND MAINE
SOUTH PORTLAND ENERGY AND RECYCLING COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
July 15, 2015
South Portland Community Center
Large Conference Room**

Call to Order - 6:30 pm

Committee

- Bob Foster - At Large (Beecher) Chair - **Present**
- Clyde Barr - AT Large (Beecher) - **Absent**
- Jessica Williams - At Large (Blake) Secretary - **Present**
- Gregory Norton - At Large (Blake) - **Present**
- Rita Thompson - District 1- **Present**
- Vacant - District 1
- Todd Erickson - District 2 - **Present**
- Melinda Timpf - District 2 - **Present**
- Stanley Cox - District 3 - **Absent**
- Williams Fritzmeier - District 3 - **Present**
- Eric Knutsen - District 4 - **Present**
- Patrick Cyr - District 4 - **Present**
- Michael Shutts - District 5 - **Present**
- Chris Gorman - District 5 - **Absent**
- Julie Rosenbach - City Liaison - **Present**
- Vacant - School Department Liaison

Old Business:

- Acceptance of June's minutes: **Motion to accept: Jessica Williams, seconded: Bob Foster. All in favor.**
- **Introductions of all present - Other than Committee members, Ben Lake from GPCOG attending at the request of Julie Rosenbach. Kate Gardner from The Forecaster. Molly Barrett & Rich Crowley - South Portland residents.**
- **Municipal Climate Action Plan Update - Julie Rosenbach led the discussion.**
 - **Pesticides: City Council discussed the issue of pesticides and possibility of banning them in the City for about 2 hours. People spoke for and against a total ban, but it seemed as if more people were in favor of a total ban. City staff are doing research on existing ordinances and a draft ordinance will be presented sometime in the fall. The Town of Ogunquit was one example of ordinances included in research so far. The City Council wants to go further than implementing Integrated Pest Management techniques, towards a ban. All pesticide ordinances seem to**

include exceptions, but City Council wants to include golf courses in the ban.

- **Recycling and Composting: Julie and Leo Roadshow - where Julie Rosenbach and Leo Mahue from ecomaine will be meeting with and presenting to Municipal staff. They have presented to Library staff already and will be working on other departments of the City in the future. The City Police Chief did a tour of ecomaine and is now interested in learning more from Julie and Leo.**
- **July 4th Celebration at Bug Light Park: Went from no recycling last year to a 73% diversion rate this year. Garbage to Garden was there to help with sorting and diverting waste to composting. Observers felt that the remaining waste was mostly non-recyclable and non-compostable material.**
- **Willard Fest: There was very little trash, recycling or compost. Attendance seemed down from last year, with fewer vendors as well. Was some miscommunication with committee and city regarding trash and recycling. Garbage to Garden provided composting once again. It was recommended that the Willard Fest Committee contact the ERC 3 months prior to the Fest so that we can help coordinating trash and recycling efforts. Todd suggested that the City permitting process for events should include a clear and concise outline of how to successfully provide for recycling and composting at events, something along the lines of providing a *“How to Have a Zero Waste Event in South Portland”*. Julie said she would revisit this at a later date.**
- **Energy and Climate : Building database is coming along well. The solar landfill project idea has stalled due to Maine Law. Julie will be putting out an RFP to Solar providers for a few - approx. 10 - municipal buildings, big electricity users.**
- **Articles/Newsletter: Where are we with this, we need to create some momentum and a queue on Google Drive, clearly outlining who is doing what and when. We should coordinate these articles to be published at the same time as the city newsletter. There will be some weeks where the bi-weekly Sentry articles will not have an associate City Newsletter. Mike Howe (former ERC member and Goodwill employee) has agreed to provide an article on textiles recycling. Jessica will do an article on the Dos and Don'ts of Recycling. Other ideas for articles:**
 - **Reduce**
 - **Top 10 Myths of Recycling**
 - **Markets for Recycled Materials - Jessica**
 - **Recycling at the Long Creek Facility - Will**
 - **Have SPHS students write an article or two**
 - **Landfill land use saved by ecomaine facility - Todd**
 - **Saving Water Saves Energy - Todd**

- **Climate Action Plan Update: Julie will be hiring Ben Lake of the Greater Portland Council of Governments (GPCOG) to update the Green House Gas (GHG) Emissions report which will be generated from energy use (electric, heat, water) data that Julie is collecting now from municipal buildings. The new report will use 2014 data as baseline data. This report will be more concise than the previous one and will hopefully make it easier to see if the City is reaching its goals. Ben has experience conducting GHG inventories. Julie and Ben will use a tool provided by ICLEI to create South Portland's GHG inventory. South Portland will have to join ICLEI (\$600 yearly fee) in order to use the tool. The ICLEI tool follows the Climate Registry Protocol which is widely used, provides a very clear way to classify emissions and will make it easy to compare our data with data from other communities using the tool. The plan is to update the GHG inventory and project status during the Fall through the Spring. Julie and Ben will be thinking about and consulting with each other on how, in the future, to best find Community emissions data. Community emissions are divided into 3 "scopes".**
 - **Scope 1 Emissions come from things like boiler, furnace, vehicle.**
 - **Scope 2 Emissions come from electricity use**
 - **Scope 3 Emissions come from employee commuting, water use.**

It is easier to get data from Scope 1 & 2 Emissions.

Where do we need to be by 2017?? 17% reduction in GHG for the Municipal piece only. Project updates on the municipal plan. What are next steps for reducing Municipal emissions?

Todd wanted to know when the School Department Representative will start attending meetings of the ERC? Russ from Facilities Management has been helpful to Julie in giving her info and data, solar, etc. But right now Julie is focusing on the Municipal piece and the schools are separate, will come later.

There was discussion of whether this committee will be involved with going through the actions in the CAP to see where we stand and what progress has been made on the metrics in the plan.

- **School: Greg - wasn't there data collection done when the HS was expanded?**

Bob: Hasn't been able to get that data

Todd: Old building needed to be modeled and this committee has asked for data for 3 years

Rich: Portfolio Manager could provide certification for HS expansion. If data is available, this could prove savings from expansion and "green" elements.

When new school superintendent arrives this issue will be revisited

- **CAP: Rich suggested mapping data to make it more accessible to citizens and city officials. Julie said this would be a great way for this committee to help - Greg: making building data more visual.**

Patrick: First benchmark is very powerful to show who is improving and who is getting worse in terms of emissions.

- Next steps re: the CAP
 - Next Goal - “17 by 17” taken from the Mayors Agreement
 - todd: data will help us understand what is realistic and attainable for the city.
 - More Visual Data
 - Data Mapping
- Next/Other Meetings
 - Data
 - Project status
 - Every meeting will have updates and recommendations. Sept. meeting there will be an update of GHG inventory.

Grants: There are some available that this committee should think about which could help fund the Business and Community parts of the Climate Action Plan. There are rolling deadlines and we should think about Spring 2016 funding.

Sentry/Newsletter Queue (also see this on Google Drive) - Dates listed are publication dates, Due date is no later than noon on the preceding Monday. It was agreed that whomever writes the article will submit it to Molly Lovell-Keely at the Sentry at editor@inthesentry.com. Jessica will submit all articles to the City Clerk for the City Newsletter.

8/7: Recycling Dos and Don'ts - Jessica

8/21: Recycling Textiles - Mike Howe - Due to Sentry by noon 8/17

9/4: Recycled Materials Markets - Jessica - will touch base with Julie to discuss

9/18: ??

Motion to Adjourn: Todd, Seconded: Rita. Meeting adjourned 8:26pm