

CITY OF SOUTH PORTLAND, MAINE
SOUTH PORTLAND ENERGY & RECYCLING COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

December 17, 2014

So. Portland Community Center

Large Conference Room

Call to order - 6:00pm.

Committee

- Bob Foster - At Large (Beecher) Chair **Present**
- Jessica Williams - At Large (Blake) Secretary **Absent**
- Rita Thompson - District 1 **Absent**
- Todd Erickson - District 2 **Absent**
- Stanley Cox - District 3 **Absent**
- Heather Valley - District 4 **Present**
- Michael Shutts - District 5 **Present**
- Clyde Barr - At Large (Beecher) **Present**
- David Domingos - Associate - At Large (Blake) **Absent**
- Melinda Timpf - Associate - District 1 **Present**
- Mike Howe - Associate - District 2 **Absent**
- Julie Silverman - Associate - District 3 Resigned
- Eric Knutsen - Associate - District 4 **Present**
- Vacant - Associate - District 5
- Doug Howard - City Liaison **Absent**
- Vacant - School Department Liaison

Old Business:

- Acceptance of November's minutes - **Motion to accept by Mike Shutts second by Eric Knutsen - minutes accepted - unanimous.**

Old Business: (cont)

- 'City Minute' **Bob provided an summary of the discussion of the special workshop on Dec. 15, 2014. This included possible changes to Chapter 2 of the Code of Ordinances covering the Conservation Commission and Energy and Recycling Committee.**

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Guest Speaker:

- **Brett Richardson, General Manager of “We COMPOST it”, made a presentation supporting commercial and institutional collection and composting of organics. His company operates a pilot compost facility at the Riverside site in Portland with a capacity to handle 200 tons per month and a second site was opened in Auburn with a capacity of 1,000 tons per month. Their current client base includes 50 restaurants, 25 schools in Portland, Cape Elizabeth, Westbrook, and Freeport and 5 hospitals including Maine Medical Center in Portland. The company recently rolled out its new collection vehicle, a state of the art orange rear load truck capable of handling 15 tons. Mr. Richardson explained in depth his companies process for collection and processing which highlight the mitigation of all the negative aspects of the process.**

‘Green Minute’: Bob shared a news release from Reuters dated Dec. 17, 2014. New York bans fracking after health report . New York State will ban hydraulic fracturing after a long-awaited report concluded that the oil and gas extraction method poses health risks. New York will join Vermont as the only states to completely prohibit fracking.

Membership Report and Updates:

- **Nomination/election of officers - Chairperson Bob Foster, Vice Chairperson Eric Knutsen & Secretary Jessica Williams.**
- **Review of attendance policies. Members where provided a copy of Code of Ordinance sec. 2-121, 2-122, & 2- 123 detailing attendance policies for all city boards and committes.**
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New Business: Bring fresh ideas

- **Discussion of meeting time and day. A brief discussion was conducted on the current day and time of meetings. Each member of the committee will**

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select 3 days and times from a matrix of 9 and send them to the chairman prior to the next meeting.

- **Open Forum: The committee discussed ideas for a cohesive media campaign to educate the general public on energy conservation, recycling, and composting. Full discussion of ideas and themes to begin in January.**

Adjournment - **7:25 PM**

Next meeting: Wed., January 21, 2015 - Community Center