

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

Meeting Agenda

April 16, 2014

So. Portland Community Center

Large Conference Room

Call to order - 6:00pm.

Committee

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

Old Business:

- Acceptance of March's minutes
 - **Motion to Accept - Eric Knutsen 2nd - Heather Valley**
 - **All in Favor - Unanimous**
- Willard Fest participation - Update by Todd

Festival is scheduled for July 12th with a rain date July 13. The ERC will be participating with two teams to support public education and assist with recycling efforts. More detailed planning to take place at next ERC meeting; both teams to prepare tentative plans by next meeting.

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

- Continue discussion about and development of sub-committees' responsibilities:
 - Communications/Public Relations - Todd + Heather
 - Begin work on next newsletter + blog posts for City newsletters
 - Business Development (Events/outreach) - Dave, Heather?, Mike?
 - School Department - Outreach/update

Old Business: (cont)

- 'City Minute' with Doug Howard .
 - **Public Works department coordinating for barrels, barriers and cones in support of Willard Fest. They will also provide a "silver bullet" if the logistics can be worked out.**
- Current status of Tax Bill insert - Todd/Heather
 - **Completing final layout for printing.**
- SoPo High School tour - Alisia
 - **Bob and Alisia had a tour of South Portland High School with Tania Ferrante who runs the Learning Alternative Program. Through this program they have developed and initiated a recycling program. The Principal and the custodial staff have been very supportive of this effort which captures 27 pounds of trash, 28 pounds of recyclables, 5.4 pounds of redeemables and 49 pounds of compostables on a daily basis. This year they have diverted 2,000 pounds of material from the waste stream. Garbage to Garden is currently costing \$250 per month, which they have paid through a grant. and other fundraising. They are attempting to find a new revenue source to cover this cost. They are also working to get an outside, weatherproof bin 3' x 6' with an openable top for storage. The group also maintains raised vegetable beds; which are donated to the Ronald McDonald House. Alisia has suggested that the City Council/ City Manager recognize Tania's and her students' work in reducing weight of trash and educating tomorrow's adults about recycling**

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and reducing waste. These are the grass root efforts that will help in achieving the goals for the future of the city.

'Green Minute': Bring fresh ideas

Update on NH Local Energy Work Group - Bob

Bob attended the 6th Annual Local Energy Solutions conference on April 12th.

The main concentration covered some of the challenges to Implement Energy Projects; which included financial, technical, behavioral and approval processes. The conference focus was on municipal and school energy projects.

Bob also noted that the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association's Mauna Loa Observatory in Hawaii recorded the carbon dioxide level hit 402 parts per million in March. This is actually two months earlier than normal and the highest level in 800,000 years.

Membership Report and Updates:

- Introduction to new member(s) + volunteers
- New members - please invite your friends and neighbors !

New Business: Bring fresh ideas

- Joint venture with Conservation Committee?
- P/R, media, and education outreach plans

Motion to adjourn by Todd, 2nd by Stan, all in favor.

Adjournment - **7:50**

Next meeting: Wed., May 21, 2014 - Large Conference Room