



Berkeley Energy Commission

BERKELEY ENERGY COMMISSION
MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Wednesday, March 28, 2007

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Miller at 6:32 PM.

Present: Abrams, Bergen, Grimes, Hansen, Lee, Miller, Murtishaw

Absent: Chamberlain, Rezaee

Staff: Neal De Snoo

Presenters/Guests: Nancy Hoeffler

Public: Josh & Guthrie Kornbluth, Judith Scher

2. Public Comments and Announcements

None.

3. Report on Zero Waste Commission, Public Works Commission, Transportation Commission and Citizens Environmental Advisory Commission (CEAC)

- Zero Waste (Miller): Commissioner Abrams reported that the ZWC will be reaching out to other commissions to discuss the proposed reconstruction of the transfer station.
- Public Works (Abrams): No report.
- CEAC (Grimes): No report.
- Transportation Commission (Lee/Murtishaw): No report.
- Council: Staff reported that Council referred Measure G to several commissions.

4. Report on Low-Income Programs

Staff reported that the PVEA and DOE contracts were on target and have been closed out and that the new LIHEAP contract has been executed.

5. Report on CECO

Staff reported that Planning will continue to be responsible for CECO plan check, using new reports prepared by Information Technology. ESD will be responsible for maintaining audit data. Commissioner Hansen reported that he, as an applicant, has received CECO corrections from Planning.

6. Discussion of RECO Study

Staff reported that HDR/Brown Vence will be completing the technical analysis with PG&E funding through ABAG Watch and that a draft for discussion with the real estate community should be available in soon. Commissioner Hansen expressed concerns about the cost of compliance.

7. Report on Community Choice Aggregation and Discussion of Possible Process for the Commission to Use Guide and Public Input and Discussion

Staff reported on the status of the CCA project. The Commission discussed policy questions and methods of presenting the issues for public discussion, which will probably take place in the Fall when reports are available. An ad hoc committee of Commissioners Hansen, Grimes, Abrams and Chamberlain will meet prior to the next EC meeting to frame the issues and discuss outreach strategies.

8. Discussion of Educational Programs

No report.

9. Report on the East Bay Energy Watch

Nancy Hoeffler reported that all but one of the members of the partnership are performing well. Geopraxis' poor performance could affect the release of the balance of the contract funds from PG&E.

10. Discussion of Sustainable Berkeley

Staff reported that some legal questions have been raised due to CESC serving as a fiscal sponsor, CESC's relation to the City (Board appointed by Council) and CESC's relationship to SB.

11. Discussion of Peak Oil

Commissioner's Murtishaw and Lee presented a draft resolution modeled after Portland's and San Francisco's resolutions (attached). Commissioner Abrams urged the Commission to take a stance that substitution of energy supplies was not a responsible approach to the problem and that lifestyle change was necessary. Commissioner Abrams will make comments to Commissioner Murtishaw who will present a revised item at the next meeting.

12. Discussion of Use of Corn-Based Ethanol as a National Fuel Source
Held over.

ACTION ITEMS

13. Approval of Minutes of February 28

The minutes of February 28 were approved (MSC: RG, TH, 7-0).

14. Items for Next Month's Agenda

No changes.

15. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM (MSC: JB, RG, 7-0).

