



Berkeley Energy Commission

BERKELEY ENERGY COMMISSION
MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Wednesday, September 26, 2007

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Grimes at 6:33 PM.

Present: Abrams, Bergen Chamberlain, Grimes, Lee, Hansen, Kornbluth, Murtishaw

Absent: none

Staff: Neal De Snoo, Alice La Pierre, Dan Marks

Presenters/Guests: Maria Sanders

Public: ~8

2. Public Comments and Announcements

Harvey Sherback reported on recent media coverage of climate change issues and in particular the impacts on water resources, noting that thermal plants have enormous water requirements. He urged the Commission to pursue solar alternatives.

3. Reorganization of Energy and Sustainable Development

Staff reported on the City Manager's stated intent to reorganize the Office of Energy and Sustainable Development. The plan is that ESD and the core staff (Romain, La Pierre, Burroughs and De Snoo) would be moved to the Planning Department. Jennifer Cogley, the green business staff person, would be assigned to the Office of Economic Development and the five staff assigned to the low-income energy programs would remain in Housing. Staff introduced Planning Director Dan Marks who reported that he was excited about the move.

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

- Zero Waste (Kornbluth): No report.
- Public Works (Abrams): No report.
- CEAC (Grimes): No report.
- Transportation Commission (Lee/Murtishaw): No report.
- Council: Staff reported that Council authorized the City to accept the US DOE Solar America grant.

5. Report on Low-Income Programs

No report.

6. Report on CECO

No report.

7. Discussion of RECO Study

No report.

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

Moved to after item 9.

9. Discussion of Educational Programs

Alice La Pierre reported that about 1,000 people attended the Green Home Expo at the Berkeley Marina on August 7. The event distributed 800 CFLs and collected 14 ounces of mercury, 50 lbs of expired medicines, 78 lbs of batteries, and 82 lamps. She reported that the 1.8 kW wind power turbine at the Marina was raised. She also reported on a variety of informational materials.

The Commission recessed from 7:03 to 8:30.

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

Staff presented a summary of the status and findings of a draft consultant report on CCA. The major issues include the following: 1) a termination fee and its impacts on the ability to finance renewable projects and initial customer opt out rates; 2) the likely impact that the CCA will have on statewide renewables; 3) transmission access for renewables.

The Commission requested a series of in-depth study sessions on specific topics, including renewables, economic sensitivities and energy efficiency. The next meeting will focus on renewables.

10. Report on the East Bay Energy Watch
No report.

11. Discussion of Measure G
No report.

ACTION ITEMS

12. Approval of Minutes of July 25
No action.

13. Adjournment
The meeting adjourned at 10:10 PM (MSC: JB, GA, 8-0).

