

Town of Southampton

Sustainability Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday October 20th, 2015 Southampton Town Hall

Members present: S. Carlin (SC), A. Reisman (AR), J. Burmeister (JB), L. Arthur (LA), N. Palumbo (NP), J. Barrows (JB2), B. Chaleff (BC), G. Raacke (GR), J. Scherer (JS),

Non members present: C. Fetten (CF), S. Abramson (SA), J. Garvey (JG), T. Mahr (TM), F. Zappone (FZ), J. Becerra (JB3)

Meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM. Meeting minutes from October 6th, 2015 were approved.

Progression and Discussion of 400+ Components

General Discussion Overview, as expanded below: John Garvey from the NYS Department of Public Service, the state utility regulatory body, gave a presentation regarding the current state of affairs as regards now having a regional Long Island office. The office has been working along with LIPA and PSEG in trying to meet the State Energy Plan goals set by the governor for the next 20 years. It is also moving to decentralize the utility model; with new technologies constantly appearing, it will allow the centralized utility model to be changed. Two public hearings will be held on Long Island, and it will be attempted to have them regularly, as well as having stake holder meetings in the Plainview office. GR mentioned the possibility of creating co-ops that will allow to an open a major share of the market to solar; zoning and codes will need to be addressed accordingly. SC presented the question of what the state can do to bring about changed in a quicker manner: utility companies, when given money, usually build a peaker plant or upgrade a substation. Now they will be required to include renewable energy.

1. EDUCATION

- a. Town Employees
- b. Homeowners and Other Residents
- c. Business Owners
- d. Primary School education
- e. Educational signage
- f. Food Production & Consumption
- g. Outreach

2. WATER

- a. Regional Clean Water Coalition
- b. Surface Water Quality
- c. Education-
- d. Regulated Water Conservation
- e. Water Treatment and Reuse
- f. Landscape Management
- g. Drinking Water Quality
- h. Groundwater Protection
- i. Stormwater Management
- j. Wetlands Protection
- k. Floodplains
- l. Planning and Emergency Mgmt

3. ECONOMICS

- a. Sustainability Index
- b. Green Business Development

- c. Resource Sharing
- d. Affordable Housing
- e. Sustainable Economy

4. LAND USE

- a. Climate Action Plan
- b. Land Use Plan
- c. Open Space Preservation
- d. New Open space
- e. Biomass Preservation
- f. Environmental Restoration
- g. Neighborhood Pattern and Design
- h. Heat Island Effect

5. TRANSPORTATION & AIR QUALITY

- a. Idling Reduction
- b. Bicycle Use
- c. Complete Streets
- d. Demand – Reduce VMT
- e. Public Transportation
- f. Parking
- g. Reduced Emissions Alt Fuel
- h. Neighborhood Pattern and Design
- i. Resilient Infrastructure

6. ENERGY / CARBON

a. Long Term Energy Planning - *GR regarding REV and the community: since REV is new, we can't be completely sure what is coming in the future. In the South Fork, where there is a positive load growth, the regular utility model will not work (energy needs to be brought in from elsewhere on Long Island). The scenario lends itself to reinvent energy, and turning to a more decentralized model will require for the community to be very involved. This is essential; PSEG is willing to help but LIPA will be harder to convince. The South Fork system has been designed to maintain peaks that last for a few hours a day, during a few days during the year. When reinventing the system, will need to cut that off and move the peaks into the valleys.*

BC on offshore wind: there are many technologies besides solar, can offshore wind be included in net metering? There is a lot of activity regarding offshore wind, and the decision needs to be taken in Albany; although Block Island is a huge step towards having offshore wind, not much can be done from LI. Looks like on-shore wind only under community net metering. SC mentioned that NYS should be looking towards offshore wind, but need to have state level conversation and policy directive first.

b. Energy and Carbon Audits

c. Clean Energy Renewable – *Net metering: there are currently 22 thousand houses with installed solar systems, 600 of them in the Town. PCE passed a net metering program that allowed people to participate even if they couldn't install solar on their roof tops. The program is known as Community Net Metering: any entity can become a sponsor of a project, soliciting for 10 members with either shares or other financial mechanisms. The program will then earn credits that are distributed among the members. They are similar, but not identical, to solar farms, in that people don't need to be adjacent to each other.*

d. Energy and Carbon Reduction – *SA on feed in tariffs: as far as backing away from the feed in tariffs, it is still an important incentive. Once the pivot point has been reached, we can leave them. But it will the change from fossil fuels to renewables. Fred Thiel has sent a bill to Albany regarding feed in tariffs.*

e. Education

7. GREEN BUILDING

- a. Sustainable New Construction
- b. Green Building Education
- c. Water Efficiency in Buildings

d. Heat Island Effect - Roofs

8. WASTE

- a. Municipal Facility Recycling
- b. Comprehensive E Waste Recycling
- c. Plastic Recycling
- d. Organic Waste
- e. Waste Education –
- f. School Recycling/Trex – in process
- g. Materials Exchange
- h. Paper Waste
- i. Building waste
- j. Hazardous Waste
- k. Product Stewardship
- l. Long Term Waste Planning – FRNCA pilot in process

9. QUALITY OF LIFE

- a. Promotion of Physical Activity
- b. Local Food
- c. Air Quality
- d. Facade Improvement
- e. Education
- f. Emergency Preparedness

10. STEWARDSHIP

- a. Trail Preservation
- b. Historic Places
- c. Fisheries
- d. Nutrients in Environment
- e. Education
- f. Vacant Land
- g. Forest and Vegetation

**** Meeting was adjourned at 5:30 PM. Please be advised that our next meeting will be Tuesday November 10th, 2015 at 4:00PM in the lower level conference room of Southampton Town Hall.**