

City of San Diego
Sustainable Energy Advisory Board (SEAB)
February 9, 2017
Meeting No. 128

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jason Anderson – Business Community
John Bumgarner (Chair) – Solar Industry
Julia Brown – At Large Member
Sean Karafin – At Large Member

Andrew McKercher – Labor Organization
Jay Powell – Environmental Advocate
Eric Scheidlinger – At Large Alternate #2

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Tom Brill – SDG&E
Hanna Grene - CSE (Regional Energy)

Douglas Kot (Vice Chair) – Building Industry
Eddie Price – At Large Member Alternate #1

I. Call to Order

John Bumgarner called the meeting to order at 10:07 A.M.

II. Introductions - Public introductions.

III. Approval of Agenda and Adoption of the Minutes [Action]

Jay Powell moved to accept the minutes as distributed; seconded by Jason Anderson. Motion passed 5-0-1 unanimously, Julia Brown abstained.

The agenda was rearranged and the Green Building Incentives and Energy Conservation Ordinance updates were deferred to the next meeting.

IV. Announcements

Julia Brown stated that the World Business Council & Sustainable Development has chosen San Diego as a model city. It is the third in the world and the first in the United States.

Jason Anderson stated that they formed a 2030 district in which a group of building owners agree to certain energy efficiency goals by 2030. They are in the process of putting exploratory committee together to define the boundaries and incremental for energy, water and transportation goals that the district will agree to.

V. Non-Agenda Public Comment – None

VI. Municipal Energy Strategy

Eric Scheidlinger gave an update on the purpose of the ad hoc working group. He went over some recommendations by City staff as they are putting together the Municipal Energy Strategy plan. The ad hoc working group looked for recommendations on content of the plan, goals of the plan and recommendations on implementations of the plan, as well as, summarized pertinent sections of the CAP and principles and comments previously adopted by the SEA Board. In addition, they looked at other municipalities and what their current energy strategy looks like, especially at the County of San Diego.

The ad hoc working group's recommendations were emailed to board members prior to the meeting. It was broken out by identifying seven particular items that needed to be included in the municipal strategy plan. They broke down those items into goals, if there were implementation strategies that they wanted recommended to achieve those goals; they plugged those in and the last part of the document was the supporting information for past recommendations that the board made relative to the goals that were set in the strategic energy plan.

Jack Clark mentioned that staff offered support throughout the working group process so they met with working group members twice to answer any questions or provide any resources. Jack stated that staff can continue to do this type support work for all working groups. The City is taking the lead from the high level guidance in the narrative of the CAP. The staff team will be delivering their recommendations on Municipal Energy Strategy Plan later this year to City Council Committee and full City Council. This is their first attempt to get public input into that plan. The next steps will be to work internally throughout the City to work with other departments & divisions to get their buy-ins and their priorities.

Eric Scheidlinger stated that the goal of this discussion was to get a motion for approval of the document, but it appears the board is going to need another month to come to a vote for this item. Jay Powell suggested that if board members have specific input to make regarding the meaning and intent of certain phrasing clearer within the next week, send them to staff to send to the working group. There was an issue, for example with the meaning of the word evaluate or optimize.

Eric wants feedback within a week. Eric will send an email to the group that recaps the sections that there seems to be an issue with and ask for input. The ad hoc group will meet one more time before the next meeting, they will make changes and send out before the next meeting for everyone has a chance to review so that in March everyone will be able to approve. Eric will consolidate everyone's feedback. Working group will be able to make the document approvable. John Bumgarner will contact the absent board members letting them know that they need to move this through.

VII. CAP Update

Cody Hooven stated that World Business Council and the starting & exploring of the 2030 District was covered in the meeting earlier. They continue to work on the 100% Renewable Energy Strategy and there are no new updates. Things are on track. Cody is thinking about the next annual report. She introduced Ashley as new staff person who will assist her. She went over some of the other projects that she is currently working on (i.e. budget, Volkswagen Electrify America proposal, the Urban Forestry, City's reinvestment and Smart Cities initiatives).

She held a solar community event ~~with~~ in partnership with the Department of Energy last week to inform stakeholders in ~~for~~ Communities of Concern regarding the opportunities to participate in the "Sun Shot Prize: Solar in Your Community Challenge" competition to expand solar electricity access. Jack Clark asked board members to utilize their network for events like this to get out to the community.

John Bumgarner asked for a brief presentation on budget proposals by City staff to help implement the energy elements of the CAP. The board will be able to see if they can provide support for funding of necessary resources to carry out those initiatives. Jack Clark said that they could do it in March.

VIII. Legislative, Regulatory and City Update & Conflicts of Interest – Fritz Ortlieb

Fritz Ortlieb gave an update on the SDG&E General Rate Case; as expected SDG&E advocated its position for one set of TOU periods. The City advocated for more variety to the one size of the TOU rates in particular in respect the solar projects. In a separate rulemaking, the Commission issued a decision on the TOU periods. They provided for a limited grandfathering of solar projects that had completed interconnections by end of January. Chairman Bumgarner noted that his company and other solar companies are shifting much of their business out of SDG&E service territory due to their assessment of the impact of changing the peak power period and implementing TOU rates as proposed by SDG&E which will be implemented sometime this Fall.

Other issues in the rate case involved street lights that SDG&E does want to offer a metered street light rate to the Cities in the region. However, the City continues to have disagreements on the startup cost and ongoing demand charges on both street light charges and ancillary devices. The City entered into agreement with General Electric for more adaptive control street lights and need get some understanding to the true cost. The ancillary devices are pretty important to the City, like traffic control, drought control, Electric Vehicles. They are still seeking fair metered rates for ancillary devices on the street lights network. Other updates were provided on Electric Vehicles charging system expansion proposal by SDG&E in their filings in response to provisions of SB350.

Jack Clark connected Eddie Price with City staff that are responsible for procurement for Equal Opportunity Contracting. It was an opportunity to learn more about what the City has in place. Eddie invited Doug Kot, Jack Clark and Aaron Lu to the meeting. He may come back to the board with what he has learned.

Jay Powell asked about the Municipal code changes on the section for SEA Board. Aaron is working on an update with Fritz. The Rules Committee will meet in April. It has to go to them first. Jack & Aaron decided to take a more inside track of internal channels to facilitate getting the SEA Board recommended changes adopted in May 2015. By the May 11th meeting board will hopefully have updated section on SEAB duties and responsibilities adopted by City Council.

IX. Suggested Guests/Presentations/Tours for Upcoming Meetings

Forgo this item to the next meeting.

X. New Business

John Bumgarner stated that there are a number of members whose terms are expiring next month (i.e. Eddie Price, Eric Scheidlinger, John Bumgarner, Doug Kot, and Jay Powell). He has had individual discussion with each member and Doug Kot may or may not renew. Everyone else wants to renew. He had expectations that his time on board could only be six years but he can do eight so he is staying. He will send correspondence to Aaron. Aaron asked if he was going to stay as Chair and he said it depends if Doug Kot decides to stay and would like to serve as Chair unless someone else wants to be Chair.

John Bumgarner stated that there will be a similar deliverable for the Energy Conservation ad hoc working group for next month. They will distribute to this group, collect feedback with a one-week cycle and get by the 23rd.

XI. Adjourn

John Bumgarner adjourned the meeting at 11:55 A.M.

Note: An audio recording of this meeting is available upon request.