

City of Newton



Setti D. Warren
Mayor

November 15, 2010 Agenda

www.ci.newton.ma.us/building/projects.htm#energycommission

Newton Citizens Commission on Energy

Eric Olson (Chair), Halina Brown, Katherine Gekas, Ira Krepchin,
Arvin Grabel, Lawrence Kaufman, John Bliss, Fred Brustman
Jonathan Kantar, David Tannozzini (ex-officio)

Telephone (617) 796-1605
C/o Public Buildings Department
52 ELLIOT STREET
NEWTON HIGHLANDS, MA 02461-1605

The regular meeting of the Newton Citizens Commission on Energy will be held on:

- Monday evening, November 15, 2010 at 7:30 p.m.
- PUBLIC BUILDINGS DEPARTMENT CONFERENCE ROOM, 52 ELLIOT STREET
Agenda (Any other business properly brought to the Commission's meeting)

Draft October minutes

New Business to be discussed

Street Lighting

Communication received from Ira Krepchin recommending the Committee further explore opportunities for street lighting "what we know might be feasible, what we need to find out, should we also explore LEDs" – working with organizations including Green Decade, Chamber and the Public Works Department.

PACE Loan Advisory

Communication received 11/12/10 from Tom Witkin, Mass. DOER concerning PACE Loans: "Chapter 188 of the Acts of 2010, Sections 28 and 34 allow cities and towns, by local acceptance, to establish a revolving fund, commonly referred to as a Property Assessment Clean Energy (PACE) program, to provide loans to residential and commercial properties for the purpose of installing renewable energy systems and/or implementing energy efficiency measures. A loan granted for such a purpose, is considered a senior lien over any existing mortgages (similar to a property tax lien or Title 5 lien).

On July 6, 2010, the Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA), which holds the largest number of private mortgages in the United States, issued a statement on first liens established by PACE loans indicating that any properties that receive senior lien PACE loans after the statement date, will be subject to a number of terms and conditions which could impact the status of their mortgage. Although not all mortgages are with FHFA, other mortgage lenders, servicers and mortgage securities investors may also follow the PACE related conditions set by FHFA.

In light of these developments and due to the uncertainty of any resolution of the first lien issue at this time, the Green Communities Division will not issue guidance to municipalities on establishing a PACE program. The Department of Energy Resources and the Green Communities Division will continue to monitor this situation and will issue additional information when it becomes available.

FHFA's statement on first lien PACE loans: <http://www.fhfa.gov/webfiles/15884/PACESTMT7610.pdf> "

Unfinished Business to be discussed

Chestnut Hill Square – (Including September 28 public hearing)
www.newtonma.gov/Planning/chestnuthillsquare/index.htm
www.nedevelopment.com/portfolio/chestnuthill/index.html

Esco Energy Services Project BOA docket #58-09 (EC0308)

Phase 1 commissioning, [Phase 2 construction](#) and [Phase 3 audits](#) (Third phase calls for \$5.3 million dollars of capital improvements and energy conservation through behavior modification)
 (Phase 2 status including 9/30/10 tour of Ed Center Annex/City Hall and subsequent meetings)

Newton's 2010 Energy Action Plan/Energy and Emissions Update

Brandeis University student Ben Rifkin is project intern.
 (Status of update including timeline for first printing of 2010 EAP)
 (Ira's 10/6 email "When Selling Energy Efficiency, Don't Say 'Retrofit,' Say 'Upgrade')

Transition Renewable Resources to Permanent Committee of the Commission (ECO0310)
 Commission's By-laws and Associate Membership

Solar Power Purchase Agreement RFQ for Rumford landfill and other properties (EC0510)
 Bid #11-17 located at http://www.ci.newton.ma.us/purchasing/current_bids.htm

NSTAR Community Outreach Grant request

(Partnering with Eco-Teams Project Jay C. Walter and Bonnie Glickman, Co-chairs)

Unfinished Business Held for Study**Home Energy Rating System** (EC0109)

Wattzy.com an automatic retrieval utility database for residents/businesses has stopped operation,
www.massenergyinsight.net for Cities and Towns. (Follow up to February 4th event at Halina's).

Survey of residents on barriers to energy efficiency (EC0310)

Lower Falls Community Center (EC0210)

\$500K State Grant for renovations, \$180K State Green Communities grant for energy efficiency.

End of Agenda 111510ag.doc

PLANNING RESOURCES (Not Part of Agenda)

Energy Commission (EC0609)

www.ci.newton.ma.us/Legal/Ordinance/Chapter-2.pdf

Chapter 2, Pages 30 and 31, Division 4, Sections 2-300 to 2-302
DIVISION 4. NEWTON CITIZENS COMMISSION ON ENERGY

Next Step Living and MassSave plans (EC0310)

MassSave provides funding for residential energy saving work, and the contractors that actually provide the services as well as improved methods of measuring.

Energy Action Plan (www.ci.newton.ma.us/sunergy/EAP021005.pdf). (EC0205)

Massachusetts Energy Efficiency Advisory Council (EC0709)

www.ma-eeac.org/info.htm

Performance based residential energy efficiency programs.

www.massmunichoice.org

08/06/09 Email from Patrick Mehr, Lexington Electric Utility Committee concerning:
"H3087 and S1527 to allow new municipal electric utilities ("munis")."

National Grid's Deep Energy Retrofit Program (www.thinksmarthinkgreen.com/der/) (ECO0809)

David Connelly Legg, Building Science Specialist, Residential Energy Efficiency, National Grid:

Energy Efficiency Security lighting for Newton Public Buildings (EC0808)

Brad Seamans, Pearl Street, Newton MA requesting EC review to recommend standard security lighting of City buildings that are efficient, dark sky friendly

Green Decade School Outreach Committee (EC0908)

www.greendecade.org/schooloutreach.html **School Outreach**

Street lighting Status Report (EC 03/05 EAP action item)

Clint Schuckel (07/14/08 update) City Streetlights: 8,400, Total Project Cost: \$1.5 Million, Annual Energy Costs Savings: \$750,000+, Annual Kilowatt Hour Savings: ~5.5 million, Percent Reduction in Streetlight Kilowatt Hours: 65-70%.

Planning Department Weekly Reports www.ci.newton.ma.us/Planning/index.htm