

Minutes of the Glen Rock Environmental Commission Meeting December 15th 2015

Members present: Andy Curshen, Paul Sharar, Sylvia Rabacchi, Mary Jane Surrago, Chris Leishear, Lesley Elton

Guests: Mayor-Elect Bruce Packer, Council member-elect Skip Huisking, Mike Mullholland and Scott Fischer of Ciel Power, and Ben Meyer prospective GREC member, Mayor John van Keuren.

Agenda Items

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by acting co-chair Paul Sharar at 7³⁰ PM

Minutes of the previous meeting on October 20th 2015 were unanimously approved

Liaison with schools: Sylvia advised that the plan to introduce more healthy food options was in early stages but parents especially had shown considerable interest. The grant for recycle training and equipment was still intrain, money to be granted by SJ and PSE&G to High School

Update on Home Energy Audits: Scott advised that 138 audits have been completed and 25 home owners have had retrofits completed so far with a total of 35 expected. It was proposed by Paul that the program be extended for another 18 months beyond December 31, 2015, with Ciel Power to produce a promotional program. Mary Jane said she would take this proposal to the Council. Skip Huisking, who had an HEA and a retrofit, advised that the State had checked and verified the work. Scott described the audit procedure.

Fleet Inventory: Andy described how this SJ action was completed and advised that Glen Rock's average mpg for the 70 vehicles included in the study was 6.1. SJ requires that the Borough reduce its carbon emissions by 20% by 2017. Key areas for improvement are more efficient police vehicles (current mpg 8 mpg), more efficient garbage/recycle collection vehicles (currently 1.5 mpg) and replacement of low mileage vehicles with more efficient gasoline and hybrid across all municipal departments.

Local Government Buildings Energy Audits: Ben Meyer had studied the large reports from CHA for the 8 buildings audited and produced a more readable report showing the basic data for each building, i.e. the recommendations for each building, the total cost and the payback period not accounting for the NJ Clean Air and PBU partial funding programs such as the Energy Saving Improvement Program (ESIP). Ben will produce a further report showing payback times after allowing for these funding programs. Paul suggested that Glen Rock and other towns should be asking PSE&G to provide online energy usage reports for its buildings on a monthly basis so as to provide town councils with hard data to use when planning retrofits. Scott queried if CHA had recommended Solar Panels. This can be found in the Borough Hall report under Section 7.1.1. Paul said he had requested CHA to give estimates for Borough Hall and the Ambulance Corps buildings as well as the train parking area for future use.

SJ Recertification, Sylvia went over all of the actions completed by the GREC with brief explanations of each. 26 Actions were completed for a total of 275 points. Paul thanked Sylvia for the work she had done to develop sustainable programs in the schools and to recruit students to work with the Commission on environmental programs.

Presentation of Sustainable Jersey Certification Award Mayor John van Keuren presented the Bronze Sustainable Jersey Plaque to the Glen Rock Environmental Commission with his thanks for their work.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM.