

Howard County Energy Task Force

Tuesday, July 12, 2016

8 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Howard Building: Columbia and Ellicott City Rooms

Attendance:

Task Force Members		Present
Kenneth	Boras	
Randy	Clayton	x
Orien	Dalton	x
Richard	Deutschman	
Steve	Estomin	x
Karen	Galindo-White	
Abdul	Majid	
Bob	Marietta	x
I. Katherine	Magruder	
Ray	McGowan	x
Daryl	Paunil	
Janice	Romanosky	x
Tony	Rosano	x
Doug	Ruch	
Jeremy	Scharfenberg	x
Rizwan	Siddiqi	x
Diane	Sweeney	x
R. Daniel	Wallace	
Ed	Wilson	x
Guests		
Elissa	Reineck	x
Alex	Zarlenga	x

Introduction:

Ed introduced the meeting. The group clarified that there will be no August meeting. The next meeting will be Tuesday, September 6th.

Meeting Content:

The Task Force members broke into the 4 sub-committee groups and had time to work on their draft recommendations. Sub-committees should focus on the recommendations and the short, medium and long term format. Then the text can be written to support and explain the recommendations. In the second hour of the meeting, two subcommittee groups presented their draft recommendations to the group and there was group discussion.

Energy Reliability and Resilience subcommittee discussion:

- Draft recommendations are up on basecamp.
- Bob Marrietta and Tony Rosano presented the recommendations.

General comments included:

- Recommendations should be as specific as possible.
- Perhaps include some goals for resiliency in terms of response time or getting service back on.
- Include information on the Continuity of Operations Plans (COOP) to show what has already been accomplished.
- There was some discussion about the County having an “energy czar” and what office that might be in.

The Workforce Development and Job Creation Strategies subcommittee discussion:

- Draft recommendations are up on basecamp.
- Jeremy Scharfenberg and Janice Romanosky presented the recommendations.

General comments included:

- Energy efficiency projects have the potential to create more jobs than renewables.
- Based on what the group learned, “green jobs” are hard to quantify. Creating more local projects will lead to increased work for businesses and have a spillover effect on jobs.
- What is the cost and justification for tax incentives?
- Should an incentives program be limited to Howard County businesses? There was a discussion of the pros and cons of attempting to do this. In this day and age, it may become more difficult to define. Perhaps work off of the BGE certified list as a starting point.

Items for the Next Meeting:

For the September meeting, some ideas for speakers included Misty Sexton to present on gas delivery (15 min plus Q & A), a BGE rep to present on community solar, and there had also been an email from Sierra Club. Rather than a formal presentations, the question and answer/group discussions seem to be of most interest.

In the second half of the September meeting, the remaining 2 sub-committees will report on their recommendations for group discussion.