

Howard County Energy Task Force

Tuesday, November 1, 2016

8 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Howard Building: Columbia and Ellicott Room

Attendance:

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

## **Meeting Content:**

The co-chairs outlined the process for finishing up the task committee report. Ed Wilson will collect the narratives and recommendation spreadsheets and consolidate them. Rizwan Siddiqi will review the document when Ed is done. The draft will be presented to the task force for comments. The co-chairs will follow up with individual sub-committee leaders to fill in any gaps.

The report will be submitted to the Environmental Sustainability Board, the County Council and the County Executive. The co-chairs will request a meeting with the County Executive to present the task force recommendations in person. That meeting likely won't happen until after the new year.

## **Energy Management and Efficiency Sub-Committee:**

Karen Galindo-White presented the draft recommendations from the Energy Management and Efficiency sub-committee. Task Force members asked questions and made comments on each of the recommendations. Some items that were discussed were:

- Setting an energy use baseline and goals will be essential. The recommended "gap analysis" will be a good step toward creating them.
- There is a difference and pros and cons to each between using an energy cost baseline and an energy use baseline.
- Task Force members discussed what the best tools are for tracking energy use. Daryl Paunil is using ENERNOC. This gives real-time data on 28 county buildings. It helps to predict peak energy usage. Shaving peak energy use is crucial to saving money on energy use. On high demand days they take steps to avoid the spikes in cost.
- Columbia Association uses Portfolio Manager which is an EPA program and can be linked to BGE. It is a free service.
- Anne Arundel schools also use Portfolio Manager. They have also had competitions between schools to see who could reduce energy use.
- The County facilities department has a good handle on what they spend for overall county facilities energy use but there is a lack of overall policy and procedure for reducing energy use.
- Energy use and cost is disconnected from who is paying the bill. Some departments have their own meter, but when several departments are in one building with one meter, challenging them to reduce energy can be difficult.
- The idea of creating a fund for "preventative maintenance" needs to be worded specifically so that it works well for the facilities department. They use a "facility condition index" and would like funds to be specifically for energy but not at the expense of other maintenance that needs to be done.
- Telecommuting was discussed as a possible addition to the recommendations.
- Adding an energy manager to county staff was also discussed.

**Items for the Next Meeting:**

The December meeting is on Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>. The goal of the meeting will be to discuss the Task Force's final report. We will meet first floor conference room.