

Broome County Energy Advisory Board Minutes
Tuesday, November 18th, 2008

The Broome County Energy Advisory Board met on Tuesday, November 18th, 2008 in the Legislative Conference Room, Sixth Floor, Edwin L. Crawford County Office Building, Binghamton, New York.

Members Present: Jason Garnar, Sharon Ramsay, Mike Lynch, Don Cumming, Lou Roma, John Smigelski, Les Platt, Rick Mancini, Dennis Mastro, Chris Burger.

The Board meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting began with the Board's approval of the previous meeting's minutes.

Report for Facilities Committee: Dennis Mastro (NYSERDA) is doing a presentation for the county about programs and incentives they can offer. Main issue of discussion was low-cost v. high-cost. Under the leadership of Mike Lynch, a county Energy Action Team has been established. They have held two meetings so far and are utilizing the Energy Star website portfolio. There will be a meeting December 3 to talk about energy audits. Rick Mancini handed out a copy of energy objectives the county needs to strive for. There was a discussion regarding energy performance contracts and how they are negotiated. Mike Lynch said that the new roof on the Arena will be an energy efficient "White Roof".

Report from Transportation Committee: Jason Garnar stated that he was very interested in using "Hydristor" technology in a county vehicle. The technology has been created by a local inventor, and it purportedly increases MPG 2x or 3c, including increasing the life expectancy of the engine. He has been discussing this technology with various county officials, and Mike Lynch is interested. The County will vote on a comprehensive carpooling website called GreenRide at it's next full meeting.

Report From Energy Committee: Jason Garnar remarked that he thinks he has enough support to fund a Wind Turbine study for the BCC/Public Safety area. There was a discussion as to what role the committee should play in informing the public about energy efficiency. Many other groups do this.

Open Discussion: There was a discussion regarding the future of the committee. The original resolution creating the committee was for one year. Should we still have an official committee, or not? Many members felt that an official committee lent credibility to their ideas. Everyone agreed that the committee should be re-chartered for another year. Jason will do more to invite more people to the committee, as our numbers have decreased over time. Issuing a media release to the media every time there is a meeting would be a good idea. We need to conduct outreach to BCC and BU, which has been done in limited ways, but needs to be done as much as possible. Chris Burger mentioned that the BCC energy symposium has been moved to March/April.

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.