

**Wellfleet Energy Committee  
Minutes of the Meeting of September 17, 2012  
Council On Aging Building  
7:00 p.m.**

**Present:** Chair Marcus Springer, Charles Cole, Richard Elkin, Lilli-Ann Green, Teresa Parker, Finance Committee Representative Thomas Reinhart

**Absent:** Craig Meadows, Edmund Doyle

**Guests:** John Morrissey, Preston Ribnick, Bob Hubby, Kathy Hubby, Marilyn Miller, Patricia Rogers, Judith Watts, Richard Watts, Kathy Sherman, Maggie Downey, Margaret Song, Meredith Miller

Chair Marcus Springer called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

A request to tape record the meeting by Preston Ribnick was made and the request was granted by the Chair Marcus Springer.

**BUSINESS**

**Minutes of 8/20/12 meeting:**

**Motion,** Charles Cole moved to approve the draft minutes<sup>1</sup>. Richard Elkin seconded. Discussion to amend draft minutes, under **Research on proposed plan for mass purchase of solar panels for Wellfleet homes and buildings:** lines 5 and 6 to: ... the promotional and educational benefits that the DOER “Solarize Massachusetts” program offers.

**Motion,** Richard Elkin moved to accept the minutes as amended. Chair Marcus Springer seconded, and the motion carried 6-0.

**Introduction of Maggie Downey, Cape Light Compact (CLC) Administrator:** Chair Marcus Springer introduced Ms. Downey. He stated that Ms. Downey said that the presenters would answer questions during the presentation only about the Energy Efficiency Plan. He said that Ms. Downey has asked that any other questions about CLC be given to the Wellfleet Board of Selectmen (BoS) and that Ms. Downey would answer other questions through the BoS. Marcus asked the audience to give any unanswered questions to Lilli-Ann Green, Secretary or to him so that the Wellfleet Energy Committee (WEC) could compile unanswered questions.

**Presentation and discussion of CLC 2013-2015 CLC Energy Efficiency Plan and other matters relating to CLC including Q & A of presentation and CLC:** Ms. Downey presented slides 1-4. She then introduced Margaret Song who presented slides 5-13. She then introduced Meredith Miller who presented slides 14-21, Ms. Downey presented slide 22. Handouts were made available: CLC slide deck <sup>2</sup>, CLC tri-fold brochure<sup>3</sup>, CLC one page handout – Wellfleet<sup>4</sup>, Mass Save Lighting Catalog<sup>5</sup>

**Ms. Downey’s presentation summary:** The four sectors that CLC is involved with are residential, low-income, commercial and industrial projects. The most cost effective measure is energy efficiency. There is a three year planning cycle for CLC. The key changes in the next CLC plan is due to the Green Communities Act (GCA) which was passed in 2008. CLC participates in state-wide working groups and has influence through these groups. There is a state-wide effort for consistency throughout MA with the

GCA. CLC has a formula to assess projects and all programs must be cost effective. All public projects will continue to be 100% incentivized.

**Ms. Song's presentation summary:** Each sector is broken into program and initiative.

Residential: In discussing the residential sector she spoke about the budget of 2010-2012 and compared it with the projections for 2013-2015 stating what is planned to be added to the future budget. Lighting, CLC will introduce LED lighting. Appliances, CLC will introduce other electronics. Heating and cooling, costs are higher for central air. There is a new initiative of \$1,000 toward a heat pump water heater with exiting current electric water heater. Residential whole house: New construction budget is projected to decrease due to the codes and there are not as many new homes. CLC is working to change to a prescriptive path. Home energy assessments budget is projected to rise because CLC is including reimbursing 100% for households with income of 60-80% of median income, as well as 100% for year round renters. CLC will also include LED lights. Multi-Family increases are due to projecting that CLC will be able to serve oil and propane customers. Regarding a home energy assessment, everyone gets at least 75% of up to \$4,000 for weatherization in your home. The audit is free. There is a K-12 educational program. Low income is considered for households with income up to 60% of median income. Retrofits are 99.9% funded with a 0% co-pay. The increases are due in part to serving oil and propane multi-family homes. New construction increases are based upon the knowledge that there are several projects that will be funded partially by grants over the next several years that CLC is aware of. This program also includes LEDs.

**Ms. Miller's presentation summary:** Present an overview of Commercial and Industrial programs. For new construction there is a significant increase in the budget to a program called upstream buydown where the cost of LED and energy efficient fluorescent lights are bought down at the point of purchase. This program is being expanded to HVAC (heating, ventilation, and air conditioning). The budget for large retrofits will more than double. CLC will retrofit town-owned streetlights with LEDs. CLC has been meeting with the towns. There is a demonstration install this fall. Small retrofit has an increased budget due mostly to increasing the incentive to year round lease holders to 95% from 80%. There is a direct finance option with CLC's contractor and CLC is working to buy down the interest on the loan to 0% for businesses that own their own building. There is a plan to add hot water heaters to the program. Sector totals show an increase in the budget from \$54,676,086 (2010 – 2012) to \$80,506,474 (2013 – 2015) for the 207,000 CLC customers.

**Ms. Downey's summary of next steps:** CLC submits the plan for 2013 – 2015 to the Energy Efficiency Administration Council (EEAC) on Sept. 19<sup>th</sup>. All CLC programs are evaluated. These evaluations impact what CLC can and can not do. They evaluate the savings and the cost effectiveness of the programs. They are performed by a third party. CLC will receive feedback from EEAC and then prepare a submission to DPU (Dept. of Public Utilities). CLC will hold four public meetings on Cape Cod to explain the energy efficiency plan. A purpose of the meetings is to receive feedback and ideas to go back to state-wide working groups and try to influence policies. Online Survey Monkey will be used for people to provide feedback.

**Questions asked:**

In Ms. Song's presentation what do the numbers on slide 6 refer to? Ms. Song: The budget for CLC.

Is this what CLC spends? Ms. Song: Yes in 2010 it was \$16 million and 2011 \$18 million. And what we hope to spend this year, as well as what we project to spend.

Is there any place that a member of the public can see what CLC spent for 2010 and 2011? Ms. Downey: Yes, it is the CLC website. The Annual Report of the Energy Efficiency Program of CLC is filed by August 1. She would not comment on any other aspect of CLC regarding an Annual Report.

Are there any alternate sources that you help with such as geothermal and passive solar? Ms. Song: Passive solar is usually new construction, but I have seen a project that is not (no answer regarding any further specifics), geothermal is under the auspices of MassCEC however there are some ground source heat pumps that could be financed.

What is the savings for a heat pump? Ms. Song: Said that she did not have the figures but would provide this information to the WEC.

Is there information about various light bulbs, their savings and their cost? Ms. Song: The information is in the Mass Save Lighting Catalog handout.

How does the public interact with CLC incentives? Is it the consumer as an individual? How do you market CLC incentives? Ms. Song: There is a handout that shows what we have done in Wellfleet. If you buy an energy efficiency light bulb it is discounted, CLC offers incentives to distributors and retailers. If you have a home energy assessment the people who perform the assessment can tell the consumer about the incentives. It is a lot of word of mouth marketing. We go to town events and hand out brochures. There are some brochures at some Town Halls.

Regarding the handout that Ms. Hubby gave to the BoS on 7-11-12, it states that between 2007 and 2011 960 business and homes in Wellfleet received benefits from CLC, what are the benefits, are they energy audits, where can I get more information about this? Ms. Downey: The Town Administrator receives a monthly report on the activity in their town relative to energy efficiency. This could be audits or it could be purchased products and services. Along with the report there is a letter asking that the Town Administrator forward this report to the BoS. The energy audits in each town are posted on the CLC website. Ms. Song: For instance I have a report of Wellfleet year to date. It has had 20 services of low income single family homes, 122 other residential and 10 commercial properties. CLC has a residential conservation service line on its website. These figures for 2007 – 2011 are calculated so that if a property has a CLC service in one year and then a service in the next year it is counted as 2 services.

Who performs the audits? Ms. Song: There are either market based options or a firm contracted to CLC, Rise Engineering.

Are they an off-Cape company? Ms. Song: They have a Yarmouth office.

Can rebates be retroactive, if for instance someone finds out about the program after installing a hot water heater? Ms. Downey: Yes, if they have a receipt or can get a copy of the receipt. The forms are on the CLC website.

Do you have to be a resident of a town to receive the CLC benefits? Ms. Downey: As long as you are paying electric bills you are able to participate in the CLC programs. Ms. Song: We verify only by electric accounts.

What is the percentage of those who have switched to more energy efficient light bulbs? Ms. Song: CLC just completed a socket survey and has determined that 30% of sockets are filled with CFL or LED lightbulbs.

Please explain EEAC, what is it? Who evaluates the CLC programs? Ms. Downey: Energy Efficiency Administration Council. It is formed and created by the GCA, and it is part of DOER which oversees all energy efficiency plans submitted by program administrators. All CLC programs are evaluated as are all program administrators. Nstar, National Grid, CLC and other program administrator programs are evaluated together and CLC pays our share of 4.6% of the third party evaluation.

Because your calculations are based on a benefit cost ratio, what are you projecting for future interest rates? Ms. Song: The information on this can be found at MA-DAC.org under avoided energy cost.

The budget of CLC is approximately \$24,000,000, the same approximate size of the whole County budget. Where do the funds come from for CLC? Ms. Downey: The rate payers of Barnstable County You are talking about an increase in the budget from \$54,676,086 (2010 – 2012) to \$80,506,474 (2013 – 2015), where will you get the money for this? Ms. Downey: From the rate payers. You will see on your electric bill a SBC (system benefits charge). For CLC this is \$5,000,000. Rate payers will pay more for the increase in the budget.

What about the mil adder, which is approximately one million dollars? Who pays this and what is it for? Ms. Downey: The rate payers who are participants in the CLC power supply program pay for this. It is an additional charge. That is not part of the Energy Efficiency Program, she declined to answer further questions about the mil adder.

What is driving the increased budget overall? Ms. Downey: There is an increasing demand of kwh. The GCA calls to use all forms of energy efficiency programs first before calling for increases in demand.

How are CLC staff paid when they spend a percentage of their time on CLC and other percentages of their time on other County business, and how do we know what these costs are? Ms. Downey: The energy efficiency staff time is tracked. The information is found on the CLC website under the Annual Report in the PPNA section. A County technology assistant tracks the time.

Do you have trouble finding people to take advantage of the programs, at the end of the year do you find that other slots could have been filled? Ms. Downey: There are hard to reach and hard to serve populations on the Cape and Islands. CLC is looking for ways to identify the barriers and how to overcome the barriers. For example CLC has partnered with elder services since seniors have expressed that many live alone and do not want strangers in their home.

Is there any place where someone can see a line by line expenditure of the budget of CLC retrospectively, including the energy efficiency program and all other line items of CLC including information for the operating budget? What part of CLC is the \$24 million budget for 2012? Ms.

Downey: The \$24 million for 2012 is the energy efficiency budget. The annual report is on the website. All of the information that you are talking about is on the website. (The member of the audience stated that the website only contains financial statements moving forward for the operating budget and not a detail of the expenditure of the operating budget.)

This format of answering questions about the energy efficiency program was very helpful. This is a request to have this type of forum to answer all questions about CLC, in fact the Intergovernmental Agreement that formed CLC calls for full accountability, will you have another forum? Ms. Downey: That is a question for the governing board.

Will you support or champion this idea since you pretty much run the meetings of CLC as the administrator of CLC? Ms. Downey: I am not going to comment on this.

What is the role of CLC? Ms. Downey: The role of CLC is three fold, energy efficiency, power supply and consumer advocacy.

Chair Marcus Springer thanked the speakers and reminded the people attending the meeting that if there are any unanswered questions, to please forward these questions to him or to Lilli-Ann Green, Secretary.

**Motion:** Chair Marcus Springer moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:31 p.m. Lilli-Ann Green seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

Secretary Lilli-Ann Green on 9/27/12 and on 10/1/12 sent formal requests to Maggie Downey, Administrator of CCL via email. The requests are for Ms. Downey to email to Lilli PDF files of the handouts CLC brought to the WEC meeting so the handouts can be filed with the minutes of the meeting per MA Open Meeting Law. As of 10/15/12 Lilli-Ann Green has received no response from Maggie Downey.

Respectfully submitted,

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Lilli-Ann Green, Committee Secretary

<sup>1</sup> Draft Minutes of the 8-20-12 WEC

<sup>2</sup> CLC slide deck

<sup>3</sup> CLC tri-fold brochure

<sup>4</sup> CLC one page handout – Wellfleet

<sup>5</sup> Mass Save Lighting Catalog