

CENTRE FOR COMMUNITY ENERGY TRANSFORMATION (CCET) ADVISORY TASK FORCE MEETING MINUTES

Meeting #5 – Centre for Community Energy Transformation

Date/Time: July 21, 2021 (10:30am-12:00pm)

Place: virtual

Attendees: David MacGillivray, Divya Arora, Hassaan Khan, Lauren Mulkerns, Leah Nacua, Michael Frisina, Nathaniel Magder, Shahid Naeem, Shannon Goulden, Simran Munde, Sumit Sood, Trevor Boston

Project Team: Amanda Kennedy (Consultant), Christine Tu (Region of Peel), Michael Hoy (City of Brampton - Supervisor, Environmental Planning), Pam Cooper (COB – Environmental Planning), Kristina Dokoska (COB – Environmental Planning), Jessica Yadav (COB – Environmental Planning student), Joshua Lacaria (COB – Environmental Planning student), Daryl Van Moorsel (COB – Economic Development)

Guest Speakers: Alex Chapman (Our Energy Guelph), Rob Kerr (Garforth Canada), Peter Garforth (Garforth International)

Regrets: Councillor Whillans, Chris Hamilton, David Laing, George Jayasinghe, Herb Sinnock, Indra Maharjan, Joan Berger, Kanika Choudhary, Karly-Anna O'Brien, Peter Basso

Objective: To learn about Our Energy Guelph and the Heritage Heights Community Energy Plan, provide Subcommittee reports, and discuss work plan.

Items distributed in advance:

- [Agenda](#).

Notes:

Notes	Action
Meeting started at 10:33 am	
The group discussed the agenda and objectives.	Email Alex Chapman at alex@ourenergycuelph.ca

<p>Alex Chapman (Executive Director, Our Energy Guelph) presented on his experiences in the first year of the non-profit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Origins of Our Energy Guelph (OEG) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Discussed the benefits of a community-level organization which avoids municipal politics and doesn't have to stop actions at the municipal boundary. There are also more funding streams available for independent non-profits. o OEG believes they have the ability to approach the community in a climate crisis, and rapidly deploy solutions that have been proven elsewhere o Noted that OEG is not completely independent from the City. They receive funding from City and have a City staffer on Board resulting in tighter relationships with City. They are working with the City as an ally rather than against them. - High-level overview of strategy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Our Energy Guelph's strategy is divided into left-brain and right-brain approaches. o Left-brain: change practices through projects such as retrofits, switching to renewables, encouraging net-zero, community energy projects (solar PV farm over landfill) o Right-brain: changing minds – chime in, buy in, join in <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Chime in</i> – chiming into political dialogue or general community conversations; talk about personal experiences, joining in community discourses ▪ <i>Join in</i> – joining into programs they offer; focal point right now is community energy retrofit program; encourage people to do that and normalize it in community ▪ <i>Buy in</i> – participating financially in program; members of community should be able to participate and invest; turning massive economic bleed (energy dollars leaving community) into economic boom (community investing their money back into the community); helps generate allies - Questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Could you expand more on the last point regarding engaging the community financially (“Buy in”), and how you went about that? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ There are a number of ways that people can engage financially right now, with more being planned. 	<p>ph.ca for any other questions</p>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Guelph Renewable Energy Co-op; members of community could purchase a bond which went towards installing solar projects▪ Community bond for renovating/retrofitting facilities to be more energy and/or water efficient▪ University of Guelph pension plan; hoping to convince them to participate financially<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Joint pension plan with UofT, UofG, and Queens University▪ Opportunity for joint investment; community investors usually invest in large chunks; hoping to create multi-community investment pool to get smaller investments which then, in aggregate, will attract larger investorso Can you describe your board structure and would you rather have done it differently if you could?<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Currently have a hybrid approach; Board members recruited based on skills and constituency▪ Would rather focus the board on skillsets, and create a separate entity (advisory group) that focuses on constituency▪ Skill base is really importanto How do you maintain arms length from City while also having staff on board?<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Only 1 of 12 members are from City so City doesn't have veto powers by any means▪ They also receive funding from City▪ Still some City involvement but it is more so just keeping tabs on how OEG is doing and offering expertise on certain organizational matters like communications and financial statement preparation▪ Noted that OEG is currently missing a window into City operations and an advocate in City Hall to stay on top of deadlines and give some insight into things like development applications where there is opportunity to improve energyo Regarding funding, you mentioned that OEG is currently funded primarily by City but that may change over time; are you considering other options like memberships or administration fees for projects? Any long term plans for funding? Additionally, are you entirely focused on Guelph or could that merge to other communities?	
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ OEG is looking at other revenue opportunities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administrative fee for PACE program ▪ Other revenue options: consulting, play mediator role in larger community projects (worth 3-5% in project value), investment opportunities ▪ Growing Guelph model is going to require another entity like a separate task force; have discussed it and plan on doing it <p>Email Alex Chapman at alex@ourenergyguelph.ca for any other questions.</p>	
<p>Rob Kerr (President, Rob Kerr & Associates) and Peter Garforth (Garforth Int.) presented on the Heritage Heights Community Energy Plan (CEP). Presentation can be found on Google Drive, here.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rob and Peter were leaders in the CEERP development. They are currently supporting many municipal and community groups with energy plans - Goal of presentation: Provide a high-level overview of the plan, what it's aiming to achieve, and how it achieves the goals/targets outlined by Council in the CEERP - Heritage Heights was flagged in CEERP as potential net-zero GHG emissions energy planning district; currently broadly classifying Heritage Heights as a green community at the secondary plan level - Reaching net-zero requires multi-dimensional solutions; need to move forward on multiple fronts (e.g. efficient buildings, local energy supply, mixed use densification, etc.) - Conceptual land use plan displayed - Project work team; diverse set of team members looking at many different aspects of planning - CEP is a work in progress currently - Presentation includes contents of CEP, and next steps - Part of the project is to engage with development community; simplistic idea that developers will not like this <p>Questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hesitant with the term net-zero; How much of the community will rely on off-setting rather than actual reductions? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o The plan set numbers as targets, not words o Net-zero definition on their end = near net-zero energy GHG reduction; taking all source energy use in HH and defining the "green neighborhood" as being 90% less than it would've been if we didn't do anything; 1.1 metric tonnes CO2 	

<p>Each Subcommittee Chair provided reports on their respective subcommittee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Governance and Nominations Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Ready for review: proposed organizational structure, draft by-laws o Questions: Consider what Alex Chapman said today about board structure - Funding and Partnerships Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Students did some research on funding opportunities and each Working Group provided updates to the Subcommittee o Currently doing research on opportunities for each Priority Project o Draft graphic created to summarize funding opportunities o Funding research is meant to be a go-to list for CCET as an organization to check out the opportunities listed for funding - Communications Subcommittee Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Key messages document that includes social media content for July - September; members welcome to comment on September content o Discussed email campaign to councilors o Video scripts drafted, will be contacting ATF members directly for opportunities to record promotional videos for CCET o Social media content stats for July: only 8 shares from CCET members; everyone please share to amplify message o We may focus more on Instagram since we reached 583 accounts on there o Loafers Lake Tree Month event, Sept 11th - it would be great to have CCET members present to talk to residents about what CCET is and what we're doing 	<p>ATF to review draft organizational structure and draft by-laws by Saturday, July 31st.</p> <p>ATF to review Funding research and draft graphic and provide comments by July 31st.</p> <p>ATF members to share CCET social media posts.</p>
<p>The group discussed the work plan. Each Subcommittee is on schedule. The Project Team is currently working on the Service Level Agreement.</p>	
<p>Discussion period: there were no questions/concerns for discussion.</p>	
<p>Next ATF Meeting: August 18th</p>	
<p>Meeting ended at 12:08 pm</p>	

Comments, suggestions and edits welcome; please contact CCET@brampton.ca