

Mountain Maryland Energy Advisory Committee

January 21, 2015, 3:00 p.m., Garrett Information Enterprise Center, McHenry, Maryland

Meeting Minutes

Committee members attending: David Dorsey, Rodney Glotfelty, Eric Guthrie

Committee members attending via conference call: Mike Koch, Dr. Ed Gates, Paul Durham, Bob Sutton

Committee members not in attendance: Tim Carney, Dr. Stephen Hartlaub, Jo Gilman, Jim Torrington, Mike Dreisbach

Others attending: Cheryl DeBerry, Evan Hansen, Andrea Varrato, Jeff Hovis, Frank Shap

Others attending via conference call: Woody Getz

Approval of November meeting minutes ([Attachment A](#)):

A motion was made by Rodney Glotfelty, seconded by Mike Koch, to approve the minutes. The motion was passed by a majority of the vote.

Discussion of Energy for the Power of 32 event:

Evan Hansen and Cheryl DeBerry presented a summary of the Energy for the Power of 32 event ([Attachment B](#)). Energy for the Power of 32 is a regional planning initiative for the 32 counties surrounding Pittsburgh. It includes counties in Pennsylvania, Maryland, Ohio, and West Virginia. Mr. Hansen and Ms. DeBerry highlighted information that could potentially be of use to the committee. David Dorsey provided an update on zoning regulations in Allegany County for solar installations on reclaimed land and brownfield sites ([Attachment C](#)).

Discussion of state legislation:

Committee members briefly discussed Maryland state legislation as well as energy related legislation proposed in neighboring states.

Committee discussion of four existing MMEAC energy initiatives:

Cheryl DeBerry provided an update on the Biomass Energy Project. She detailed the progress that Garrett College has made in determining the feasibility of converting the majority of their facilities from propane fuel to biomass energy. Committee members also brainstormed ideas for the proposed Mountain Maryland Energy Efficiency initiative public awareness event. Ideas included providing the public with information on existing energy efficiency programs and cataloging energy saving opportunities derived from in-home retrofits.

Eric Guthrie provided an update on the Mountain Maryland Solarize project. He discussed the progress of solar installation negotiations between a local business and Solar City, a solar energy provider. Mike Koch provided an update on a separate renewable energy agreement with Tri-State Wind and Solar. Committee members assessed the progress made on these three initiatives and analyzed potential next steps.

Committee discussion of bringing additional energy initiatives from the parking lot:

Committee members were given a handout that contained a complete list of all ideas submitted to the committee thus far ([Attachment D](#)). A PowerPoint presentation ([Attachment E](#)) was used to summarize the ideas that still remain in the Parking Lot phase of the review process. Committee members discussed the remaining ideas and took interest in developing idea P210 – Crowd Funding Solar Project for the Ruth Enlow Public Library System.

Public comment:

No public comment was offered during this meeting.

Adjourn:

A motion was made by Eric Guthrie, seconded by David Dorsey, to adjourn the meeting at 5:00pm.