



Redwood Coast Energy Authority

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July 10, 2018
Tuesday, 6 - 7:30 p.m.

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE **REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

The agenda and packet for this meeting were posted on July 6, 2018. Staff Director of Demand Side Management Lou Jacobson called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Members present: Tom Hofweber, Colin Fiske, Kathy Srabian, Norman Bell, Michael Sweeney (Board Liaison), Jerome Carman, Pam Halstead, Dennis Leonardi, Luna Latimer, Richard Johnson, Craig Mitchell. Larry Goldberg arrives at 6:03 p.m. Matty Tittmann arrives at 6:04 p.m.

Members absent: Kit Mann

Staff present: Community Strategies Manager Nancy Stephenson, Staff Director Lou Jacobson, Community Strategies Coordinator Meredith Morehead

Approve minutes of April 10, 2018 Special Meeting

Staff Director Jacobson opened public comment. No member of the public was present to comment. Staff Director Jacobson closed public comment.

Motion Carman. Second Halstead. Minutes of the April 10, 2018, Community Advisory Committee special meeting were approved by consensus.

Oral Communications

Member Srabian expressed concern about losing community trust and stated some community members perceive a willful lack of transparency on RCEA's part because of the increased percentage of biomass electricity in the agency's energy portfolio.

Member Bell requested information on the percentage of biomass-derived electricity in RCEA's portfolio; the cost/megawatt hour to procure biomass; and the Community Choice Energy (CCE) program's 2017 CO₂e emissions. Member Bell also requested that an article on biomass CO₂ emissions be distributed to the committee and included in the meeting record. He expressed concern that biomass energy production may be negating the RCEA's greenhouse gas reduction efforts.

Staff Director Jacobson stated he would relay the questions to appropriate staff.

Ms. Srabian and other members expressed concern that the agency's outreach materials contain too much jargon and suggested that simpler, more broadly accessible language be used to gain wider community support.

Member Leonardi requested that a broadly accessible explanation for biomass energy's inclusion in the CCE portfolio be shared proactively with the public.

Staff Community Strategy Manager Nancy Stephenson stated RCEA has been providing this explanation to the public, especially on social media. Ms. Stephenson stated she will keep the Committee informed on power procurement communication with the community.

Member Leonardi requested that staff involve the committee more in public outreach efforts, and to incorporate input and individual outreach efforts into a comprehensive communication strategy.

Approve Revised Community Advisory Committee Charter

Staff Director Jacobson presented the staff report recommending adding a chair and co-chair position in the Committee's Charter to be able to more easily schedule special meetings. Mr. Jacobson further recommended the Committee schedule a special meeting in August to select a chair and co-chair.

The Committee discussed Brown Act meeting requirements and the need for a chair and co-chair. The group requested postponement of approval of the charter to a special meeting, inclusion of a description of the chair and co-chair's roles in the charter and requested that members interested in serving as the committee chair or co-chair submit information to the group to assist in the selection process.

Staff Director Jacobson opened public comment. No member of the public was present to comment. Staff Director Jacobson closed public comment.

Motion Leonardi. Second Halstead. By consensus, the Committee agreed to hold a special meeting on Tuesday, August 21, from 6 – 7:30 p.m. to consider and adopt a revised charter and select a chair and vice-chair.

Provide input to staff on the proposed CCE-funded customer programs

Staff Director Jacobson presented a staff report on the Board-approved Community Choice Energy-funded customer program selection process and described the three proposed Phase I customer programs for 2018. Director Jacobson explained that after gathering comments from the Committee, staff would present the programs to the Board of Directors for approval. He explained that staff will solicit Committee, Board, staff and public proposals for Phase II of the program, which begins in 2019. Phase II funding levels are still uncertain and funding timelines will likely coincide with the fiscal year beginning on July 1. Funding for projects will be allocated within the fiscal year, can be completed after the end of the fiscal year, and multi-year projects can be funded.

The Committee requested using a tiered, income-based system in the future to determine which customers receive subsidies; discussed how funding levels for the different programs were determined; clarified that the RCEA rebate catalog is a collection of first-come, first-served rebate programs; inquired whether a used electric vehicle rebate can be included in the catalog; discussed whether RCEA can help facilitate customer program awareness with lower-income community members; and

clarified that CAC members may begin discussing 2019 program ideas with staff and that program proposal solicitation should begin in the fourth quarter of 2018.

Staff Director Jacobson opened public comment. No member of the public was present to comment. Staff Director Jacobson closed public comment.

The Committee requested programs that:

- Are more equitable and serve a wider demographic;
- Fill gaps in PG&E customer programs; and
- Focus more on electrification.

Board Liaison Sweeney expressed appreciation for a good discussion by the committee.

Summarize actions, outcomes, next steps

Director Jacobson summarized the next steps to be taken:

- The Committee's Charter, including description of the Committee Chair and Co-Chair's roles, will be discussed and possibly approved at the CAC August special Committee meeting.
- If the Charter is approved, a Chair and Co-Chair will be selected at that meeting.
- Community Choice Energy-Funded programs will be presented to the Board at their August meeting, along with the Committee's comments.

Director Jacobson adjourned the meeting at 7:34 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lori Taketa
Clerk of the Board