**Sustainable energy Utility Advisory Board (SEUAB) Regular Meeting**

**Tuesday, January 11, 2022**

**10:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

**Call to Order**

Chair Bicky Corman called a quorum of the Sustainable Energy Utility Advisory Board (SEUAB or Board) at 10:10 am, January 11, 2022. This was a Microsoft Teams video conference call meeting.

**Roll Call/Introductions**

Roll call was taken at 10:06 am, and the following people were in attendance:

**Board Members:**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **In Attendance?** | **FY22 Regular Meeting Attendance** | **FY22 Special Meeting Attendance** |
| Bicky Corman (Board Chair - EOM) | Yes | 4/4 | 2/2 |
| Millie Knowlton (Vice Chair – Building) | Yes | 4/4 | 1/2 |
| Sandra Mattavous-Frye (OPC) | Yes | 4/4 | 2/2 |
| Cary Hinton (PSC) | Yes | 4/4 | 1/2 |
| Donna Cooper (Electric Company) | Yes | 4/4 | 2/2 |
| Eric Jones (Building Management) | Yes | 4/4 | 0/1 |
| Nina Dodge (Environment) | Yes | 4/4 | 2/2 |
| Marshall Duer-Balkind (Councilmember Cheh) | Yes | 4/4 | 2/2 |
| Jamal Lewis (Low-Income Community) | Yes | 2/4 | 2/2 |
| Matthias Paustian (Council Chairperson Mendelson) | Yes | 2/4 | 0/2 |
| Mishal Thadani (Economic Development) | Yes | 2/4 | 1/2 |
| Sasha Srivastava (Renewable Energy) | Yes | 2/4 | 2/2 |
| *Gas Company* | *Vacant* | n/a |  |

**Other Attendees:** Tommy Wells (DOEE);Angela Johnson (DCSEU),Lance Loncke (Sr. Program Analyst, DOEE); Dave Epley (Associate Director, DOEE); Patti Boyd (DCSEU); Sarah Kogel-Smucker (OPC); Yohannes Mariam (OPC); LaKeisha Lockwood (DOEE); Theodore Trabue (DCSEU); Taresa Lawrence (DOEE), Angela Johnson (DCSEU); Brandon Bowles (DCSEU); Daniel Conner (DOEE); Karen Sistrunk (OPC); Hussain Karim (DOEE); Tamara Christopher (DCSEU); Yohannes Mariam (OPC); Zoe Heller (DCSEU)

**Approval of Agenda**

10:12am Marshall Duer-Balkind moved to approve the agenda. Donna Cooper seconded the motion.

* All were in favor, none opposed

**Vote Taken**

Ms. Dodge moved to have congratulations and recognition of Dr. Taresa Lawrence added to minutes. Chairman Corman seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed.

* The Board thanks Dr. Lawrence for her commitment and dedication to the DCSEU Advisory Board.

**Approval of November/December 2021 Minutes**

* No comments received on the November minutes
* Chairman Corman reminded members to read and send comments on meeting minutes prior to meetings
* Ms. Dodge moved to approve November minutes. Mr. Thadani seconded the motion. All were favor, none opposed
* December (regular/special meeting) and January meeting minutes will be voted on in next month’s meeting

**Onboarding/Orientation of New Board Members – Millie Knowlton**

* Ms. Knowlton distributed documents to new members along with the link to the Google Drive
* Google Drive contains all documents distributed for each meeting. The drive is organized by meeting date.
* Ms. Knowlton will set up two meetings for all new members. One with Board Chair and DOEE staff. The second meeting will be with key DCSEU staff. There will be a Doddle poll sent out to access availability for both meetings.

**DCSEU First Quarter Update – Ted Trabue, DCSEU**

FY2022 Annual Results

Board questions and comments:

* Mr. Duer-Balkind asked, “Why is there no minimum benchmarking for the low-income spend?” Mr. Trabue stated that the low-income benchmark does not have a sliding scale of the other benchmarks so there is no minimum.

**DCSEU New/Piloted Programs**

Affordable Housing Retrofit Accelerator

This is the largest new initiative with a little over $21 million in funding. The DCSEU is working closely with DOEE and the Green Bank to launch this program. The focus is helping income qualified multi-family housing achieve BEPS compliance. There are currently 103 buildings on the list. The DCSEU has started performing audits on the buildings that have been identified as needed assistance achieve the minimum benchmarking score of 66 out of 100.

* Ms. Dodge asked, “Can you remind us what the income qualifications are for the buildings? Mr. Trabue said, “50 % or more of the residents in the building are earning 80% of the area median income or less. What is the universe of buildings is in the District that meet that qualification?” Mr. Epley stated that there are approximately 140 buildings total that are not currently meeting BEPS standards. The DCSEU is focusing on the 103 and the others are public housing buildings that are receiving their own stimulus funding to address those issues.
* Chairman Corman asked, “Is this stimulus money, not SETF money?” Mr. Epley said “Yes primarily, there is $3 million of the $21 million that are SETF funds.” Chairman Corman asked, “How does this fit into the DSEU benchmarks?” Mr. Epley said “It’s currently being worked out but this work is separate from the regular DCSEU contract.”

**Solar for All**

There is a new component to the Single-Family Solar for All Program that now includes roof repairs as part of the installation of a solar system. This will allow for more program participation. In the CREF program there are currently about 3-4,000 subscribers using the community solar systems that are currently in the program.

* Mr. Paustian asked, “Does added roof repairs impact the budget and the number of homes that can be served?” Mr. Trabue said, “No there is so expected significant impact to the budget adding the roof repairs since the overall program budget increased by $5 million in FY2022.”
* Mr. Duer-Balkind asked, “Will the DCSEU be involved directly in the roof repairs?” Mr. Trabue noted the DCSEU hasn’t been worked out completely yet and they will follow up with the installers.
* Ms. Srivastava asked, “Is the CREF subscribed to its capacity or is there a gap?” Ms. Lawrence said, “Yes there is a gap, the systems are not all fully subscribed as recruitment efforts are currently underway.”
* Mr. Lewis asked, “Does the roof repair portion include roof replacement?” Mr. Trabue, “Yes it does.”
* Ms. Dodge asked, “Are there opportunities and best practices for increasing energy efficiency of the building envelope when doing roof repair?” Ted said, “Yes there is and it’s something that will be further explored by the DCSEU.”
* Ms. Dodge asked “Does DOEE need additional money for the subscriber program?” Taresa said, “Budget is not really the issue right now, the pandemic slowed the subscriber team down a little.”

**HVAC Replacement Program**

This program is limited to furnaces and water heaters replacement for income qualified customers. The program is still being designed and will work in conjunction with the Solar for All program. This program will be a DCSEU annual offering.

* Ms. Dodge asked, “To what extent are the Advisory Neighborhood commissioners being educated on this program and the offerings? This question can be tabled for a later date as the program is still in development.”
* Mr. Lewis asked, “Does this program include knob and tube wiring and electrical panel replacement?” Ms. Boyd, “yes it does, we included this in the pilot program.”
* Ms. Dodge asked Ms. Boyd to clarify what she meant by “leverages the Solar for All Program.” Ms. Boyd noted the homes that participate in the HVAC program will also participate in the Solar for All program.

**Workforce Development & Training, Sustainable Energy Infrastructure Capacity Building Pipeline (SEICBP)**

It will now be a permanent program offering of the DCSEU. It’s been offered on a temporary basis for the last two years. The program just started its first and largest cohort on January 10, 2022. The program participants are trained for four to five months with program partners. The placement rate after program completion for participants is currently 85%.

* Mr. Paustian asked, “Is this program predominantly Solar?” Ted: “No it’s diverse across all fields.”
* Mr. Lewis, “Does it include weatherization at all?” Ted: “No there isn’t a direct training opportunity for weatherization.” Mr. Lewis encouraged including weatherization as part of the program in the future.

**Leaf Blower Rebates Program**

* The residential side of the program is very strong. DCSEU has processed about 40 rebates already on the residential side. The commercial side has not seen much activity.
* Mr. Jones commented that the commercial industry is not aware of the program. The industry is concerned about the battery life of the electric blowers based on the number of jobs completed daily.
* Mr. Wells commented that the law was passed in 2018, all of the businesses were notified and there are a great number of businesses that have already switched over.
* Chairman Corman asked: “Is there a restriction on where the blowers are purchased?” Ted said, ”Yes they have to be purchased in the district.
* Ms. Dodge noted that the first costs to small business owners to convert to battery operated leaf blowers for all day use is too high a scale to benefit from the scale of rebates offered by the SEU. The cost, including multiple large batteries, fast charger, harness, etc. is in the thousands of dollars.

**Legislative Updates – Hussain Karim, DOEE**

* The Annual Advisory Board FY20 report was submitted to Council on December 30, 2021.
* There is a DOEE Oversight Hearing on January 25, 2022.

**Discussion of Issues for SEUAB for FY22**

* Add the Federal lighting requirement to next meeting agenda
* Add the discussion around fuel switching tracking to next meeting agenda
* Add a brief discussion of fuel switching pilot lessons learned to the next meeting agenda. The discussion of ACEEE report will be deferred to a future meeting after the ACEEE report is released. The DCSEU/DOEE pilot report is currently under review and needs to be edited to contextualize things accurately.
* Add the discussion of the Board Annual Report issues to the next meeting agenda
* Add discussion of DC CBE requirements to a future board meeting for a better understanding of the requirements. Please invite DSLBD to discuss the certification and accountability process.

**Actions taken by the Board**

* Approval of agenda
* Approval of November meeting minutes
* Review and scheduling of discussions for future meetings

**Adjournment**

* Chair Corman adjourned the meeting at 12:01 PM.

*Minutes prepared by LaKeisha Lockwood, DOEE*