

Energy and Air Quality Advisory Committee (EAQAC)

Wednesday, April 1, 2015 at 7:00pm

“Fishbowl” Conference Room

DEP, 255 Rockville Pike, Ste 120

Members present: Jamie Pierce, Kavita Vaidyanathan, David Kathan, Foroud Arsanjani, Linda Tsang, Venu Ghanta, Reuven Walder, Fred Booth

Guests: Stephanie Riddick, Eric Friedman (OCP), Peg Mancuso (GCAAR), Meredith Weisel (GCAAR), Steve Gibb (former member)

Staff: Stan Edwards, Michelle Vigen

Draft Notes

7:00 pm Guest Speakers

Presentations on radon testing in existing homes

- Eric Friedman from the Office of Consumer Protection
- Meredith Weisel from the Greater Capital Area Association of REALTOR (GCARR) and Peg Mancuso, President-Elect, GCAAR

Speakers and the Committee presented on and discussed: OCP’s role and current level of enforcement on current similar laws; barriers and alternatives for radon testing education and interventions at the real estate transaction point; discussion of residential building code radon mitigation-ready requirements; market of radon testers and mitigation service; Air Subcommittee would look further into education opportunities for new and existing homeowners

8:00 pm Committee Business

1. Committee Business Backlog

- Approval of Draft Agenda - *approved*
- Approval of February and March notes - *approved*

2. Follow-up Items re: County Executive Meeting

- Thank you note? (Bob/Reuven/Foroud) – *this was sent by Bob*
- Energy Coach Concept (Reuven) – *Reuven would send out to gather comments. Staff updated the committee that this concept did end up in a Joint Settlement Agreement Montgomery County and several other parties negotiated with Exelon. Agreement as proposed would provide \$2 million towards an Energy Coach concept over 5 years; program would work with Health and Human Services to provide coaching capacity at their service hubs (targeting low-to-medium income households). Staff would send out the documents.*

3. [Added] Team Task Structure Proposal (Foroud) – *approved*

Home Energy Score group will be arranging a call with Joan Glickman, DOE. Has identified MEA State Energy Program grants as a possible source of funding.

4. **Staff Updates (DEP)** - *Commercial PACE financing was adopted on March 31, 2015 – Dept of Finance and DEP will be working to find an administrator for this program. / DC Metro Area ranked #1 in ENERGY STAR / Have completed interviews for Energy Program Manager position.*
 5. **Open Forum/Public Comment** – *Reuven announced the launch of Breathe Easy Home brand for home improvements to mitigate allergies and asthma, and improve health overall.*
 6. **Next Meeting: May 6, 2015 at 7:00pm**
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