

Green Action Community Committee  
February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2009 – Minutes

Introductions, Solutions, & Sign-In.

Presentation given by Bruce Cranston on Light Emitting Diodes [LEDs].

Benefits include (if a LEDS lighting system were to be used): Less storage space needed, lower maintenance time (changing bulbs far less frequently), lower energy use (LEDS waste less energy and light more area).

Companies (including Albeo Technologies) can perform diagnostics, audits, and other analyses to help gain these advantages in full.

Disadvantages: An investment to change current systems to LED (Time & Money), as well NYSERDA offers no rebates for LED systems.

Bill Nowak suggested a letter from GACC to NYSERDA to get an understanding of their policy and to inform them of GACC's understanding of the environmental advantages of LED lighting.

Also the legislature (Erie County) could possibly push NYSERDA toward new policies for rebates toward LED replacements.

Further bulk purchasing of LEDs may be able to defer cost.

Phil Habestro suggested the Committee look at Iclei (can be viewed at [www.iclei.org](http://www.iclei.org), thanks Anne Huberman for the website link) is a case study of various communities' involvement with LED.

Committee moved on to discuss goals and structures of the Committee.

Roger Cook pushed for Energy Star and Green Material Purchases.

Michele Iannello called for Green Job growth.

Discussion followed on what the Committee's Action Plan is to be.

We are a subcommittee without direct power.

We are to help make jobs through energy conservation.

Reduce levels of Carcinogens.

Overall Health of Erie County to be improved.

Such as Complete Streets: Which is that any road to be built or rebuilt will be 'Healthy' by having sidewalks and Bike paths installed.

What the Current situation is within Erie County.

Metrics for Greening, Sustainability, and Health of the County are needed. (Such rubrics may be Mega Watt, Water with lower Toxicity ratings, as well as local water levels increasing in height, lower pollutants in the air.)

Senator Thompson is the sponsor of the "Bigger Better Bottle Bill" which is one of the major environmental initiatives being considered by the NYS early this session.

The Senator has also introduced a pair of bills that would establish Producer Responsibility for the environmentally responsible recycling of E-Waste and mercury in lighting.

Solar & Wind: Rebates for more consumers to be able to purchase, or more visibility of Solar & W moved to determine how often the committee will be meeting and where and when those meetings will occur. It was agreed that the meetings will occur at 72 Franklin (same as before), and that the meetings will occur roughly a month apart from each other, the next ones to happen either March 10<sup>th</sup> or the 12<sup>th</sup>.

Ending discussions went over the various overlapping abilities and specialties the groups could bring forth to help Erie County.

For instance Pollution Prevention Institute could give technical aid to Industry to lower their various pollutants.

Possible to Do list:

Writing to NYSERDA on rebate for LED systems.

Future Presentations.

A suggestion for Future Presentation is Walter Simpson former Energy Officer for UB (Suggested by Anne Huberman).