



Energy Efficiency Subcommittee
Meeting Minutes
 August 25, 2020
 1:00pm – 2:30pm

Facilitator:	Wende Randall		
Meeting Attendees:	Maddie Strom, Erin Donnelly, Susan Cervantes, Marc Foerster, John Mitchell, Monica Light, Sari Mira, Charles Bazner, Sakinah Howard, Sherrie Gillespie, Kymie Spring, Wanda Clavon Jones, Sam Giffel, Tom Oosterbaan, Sherrie Gillespie, Brett Little, Wende Randall, Emily Madsen, Brianne Robach <i>(List may not be complete- please contact Brianne if you were on the call but are not listed here.)</i>		
Time Convened:	1:03	Time Adjourned:	2:35

Introductions	
Review of Minutes	From July 28, 2020
Discussion	
Amendments	None
Crystal Flash	
Discussion	
<p>Crystal Flash is a liquid fuel company that brings fuel across the state. They deliver fuels to businesses, gas stations, and residential customers. In terms of assistance, CF works with organizations who provide assistance to households in needs of assistance on a case-by-case basis. They also are able to set up payment plans or get customers on a budget program and have funds are available for customers in extreme situations. Marc will follow-up with information on how agencies can work with CF to leverage funds for assistance.</p>	
Deliverable Fuels	
Discussion	
<p>As we get closer to colder weather, know that the heating season is coming and want to ensure we are proactive in reaching out to neighbors before their tank is low.</p> <p>Previously discussed identifying funds for monitoring equipment. CF monitoring instrument cost is around \$40 a year over 5 years. This monitoring device uses cellular technology to rely the tank amount back to CF and to customers. CF previously discussed alerting customers when they are close to 20% so they can approach an organization for assistance prior to being empty. Marc noted that the 20% requirement for assistance puts a hardship on CF with the admin time to get approval and then the lead time to deliver (usually around 5 days). Wanda suggested that someone from the propane association contact the legislature and MPSC that this requirement is a hardship for companies. Wanda noted that the tank requirement is 25%, not 20%. Potential opportunity to work with providers to get some type of pilot project to provide monitors to serve as a proactive option for customers. Wende can share information around a pilot with Wanda and her team.</p> <p>MPSC will be doing outreach encouraging customers to be proactive in asking for assistance.</p>	
Coalition to Keep Michigan Warm Updates	
Discussion	
<p>Advocacy meetings are scheduled with legislators to encourage support for MEAP and LIHEAP. They are focusing on outreach to households and encouraging them to reach out if they are in need of assistance is important right now. CTKMW was put together a toolkit with resources for outreach through social media, newsletters, and emails: http://www.coalitiontokeepmichiganwarm.org/covid19.html</p>	
MEAP Updates	
Discussion	



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Energy related SER requests at DHHS have increased in July/August. The increased FY caps and ability to assist more than 1x is in place through 9/30/20.

KCCA still processing requests. North Kent Connect is processing MEAP and has extra utility funds/

COVID-19 Updates

Discussion

City of Grand Rapids Water and Sewer – KCCA is part of a pilot of matching local data and state-wide SNAP data to identify those who are in need of assistance. KCCA will pay up to \$700 each for water and sewer. Potential to loop in referrals if agencies have client information. They are encouraging customers to apply for SNAP if they think are eligible to be connected through this program.

Plumbing and Water repairs – KCCA receiving funds for internal and external water repairs to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 for Kent County residents at or below 200%FPL

Agency Updates

Discussion

Resiliency and Sustainability Forum with Senator Debbie Stabenow and Congressional Candidate Hillary Scholten – today at 3:00pm. <https://wmsbf.org/event/resiliency-and-sustainability-forum-with-congressional-candidate-hillary-scholten/>

ENTF Strategic Design and Implementation – subcommittee members shared feedback earlier in the summer. Input is being used to identify values and draft mission and vision, and action areas and objective. More information will be shared at a convening in late September

Consumers – Cold Climate Heat Pumps Pilot program for income eligible, electric only customers without an existing DTE gas line. Can install different types of heat pumps, covering all the costs up to a certain amount. Questions should go to Sari Mira (smira@seillc.com).

Senior Neighbors – funds are available for utility assistance payments of \$350

GreenHomes Institute – small affordable home being built in the Seeds area, hope that this program will continue. <https://www.woodtv.com/news/grand-rapids/small-homes-create-big-opportunity-for-se-gr-residents/>

Homeowner Energy and Health Awareness event – September 22nd. Learn more at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/lowering-utility-bills-and-improving-your-home-health-online-event-tickets-116644842865>