



**Minutes
Community Energy Plan Steering Committee**

Thursday, June 8, 2023

Central Park Place, Woodbine Room

Pre-Meeting Notes from June 1st: The Community Energy Plan budget was secured as of last week thanks to the final grant from the Loutit Foundation (\$100,000 total is now available from five funding sources – Thanks to the City of Grand Haven, City of Ferrysburg, GH Area Community Foundation, MI Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy – EGLE, and the Loutit Foundation).

Our Request for Proposals are due on Thursday, June 8th. The date that most people could make for the meeting is **4 PM** that same day, June 8th. **The location is Central Park Place, Woodbine Room**, since the City Hall Council Chambers will be undergoing a tech upgrade then. We will discuss future meeting dates and locations as one of the following agenda items:

Minutes of June 8th Meeting, 4:00 PM

1. **Attendance:** Craig Bessinger, Ferrysburg City Manager, Ashley Latsch, Grand Haven City Manager; Karen Lowe, Grand Haven City Council, Erik Booth, BLP, Garry Post, Ferrysburg Citizen, Patti Nelsen, Grand Haven Citizen, Nancy O’Neill, Grand Haven Citizen, Ryan Cotton, Grand Haven Citizen. Jim Hagen attended from the general public.
2. **Absent:** Jerry Sias, Ferrysburg City Council (transportation), Mike Fritz, Grand Haven City Council (family), David Mann, Grand Haven Citizen; Will Montgomery, Ferrysburg City Council, Greg Griffin (still determining who and how best to have Michigan Gas represented), Karen Sherwood, Grand Haven Township (travel), Bill Cargo, Grand Haven Township (ex-officio), Gordon Gallagher, Spring Lake Township (ex-officio), Dave Walters (ex-officio)
3. **Introductions (Elected officials, Administrators, and Citizens):** Each person explained their interest in the project.
4. **Review of RFQ and RFP Process (8 consultants considered responding; 4 did so)**
5. **Preliminary Review of RFQ’s Received:**
 1. Blue Strike Environmental, Boston/Monterey
 2. Garforth International, Toledo/Canada

3. Michigan Energy Options/Five Lakes Energy, Lansing/Ann Arbor
4. Public Sector Consultants/Fresh Coast Climate Solutions
6. **Decision on who to conduct, call/interview, and how to proceed generally on Due Diligence:**
 1. Ashley volunteered to write a template for reference checks
 2. Karen volunteered to do google checks
 3. Erik volunteered to check with his utility contacts
7. **Decision on Timetable for Cost Proposals:** The group decided to read the proposals and come back together next week to discuss their qualifications. Tuesday at 9 AM at Central Park Place was set for their next meeting.
8. **Public Notice Discussion:** Announced that meetings are open to the public and will be officially noticed
9. **Robinson Township Representation:** Ryan said he would get with Jane Longstreet, Deputy Clerk.
10. **Grand Haven Township Representation:** Scheduled for Board discussion on Monday, June 12th.
11. **Leadership: Chairperson and Secretary:** Deferred to next meeting.
12. **Next Meeting Date, Time, and Place:** Tuesday at 9 AM at Central Park Place

Ryan Cotton, Interim Convener
Community Energy Plan Task Force
Cell: 616-638-8910