Citizens’ Advisory Committee
Power Subcommittee

Approved Minutes

February 7, 2012

1155 Market Street, San Francisco
4th Floor Conference Room
5:30 - 7:00 pm

Members

Doug Cain – Chair
Walt Farrell
Stephen Bjorgan
Jessie Buendia

Staff Liaison: Ben Chan

Members present: Cain, Buendia, and Farrell

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Call to order
Chair Doug Cain called the meeting to order at 5:35 PM.

2. Approval of Minutes of December 6, 2011
The committee approved the minutes.

3. Public Comments – matters within Subcommittee’s scope, not on today’s agenda
None.

4. Report from the chair
Mr. Cain spoke about his request that a presentation be made to the Committee on the applicability of Google’s technology that could offer San Francisco a power distribution system that also carries broadband internet signal.
5. **Staff report**

John Doyle of Power Enterprise briefed the committee on some of the on-going projects; specifically, Pier 27, hydroelectric power for University Mound, hydroelectric power for Calaveras reservoirs, wind power in Twin Peaks and other energy efficiency projects.

Pier 27 – It is a cruise ship terminal for the upcoming America’s Cup event. SFPUC is working with the event organizer through the Mayor’s Office. No agreement has yet been made as to what kind of energy SFPUC could provide or what potential fees might be. A solar array on top of the pier will be installed as a long-term project.

The 240 kilowatt hydroelectric plant to be built at the University Mound Reservoir will take advantage of gravity-driven water coming from the Crystal Spring Reservoir. Power Enterprise has had meetings with the neighbors and the Arts Commission, which decided to go along with the neighbor’s suggestion for a Spanish-style building. A Request for Proposal (RFP) will be issued this year.

One megawatt Calaveras hydroelectric project – This is similar to the small hydro plant at University Mound but much larger.

Wind power on Twin Peak – It is going through environmental review; once the review period is concluded, an RFP will be issued. This is not a large project so noise will be minimal. Mr. Cain said this would be a good opportunity to use a CAC member from that community for this project’s outreach effort.

Mr. Doyle also spoke about a citywide lighting project and transmission options and costs from Moccasin to San Francisco.

**Presentation on the TransBay Cable Funds – Jonathan Cherry**

Background – It is a privately owned TransBay cable line from Pittsburgh to San Francisco, providing 400-megawatts of power transmission capacity. It went into service in late 2010. The line goes through Port property and as a result, has an agreement with the city.
This agreement stipulates that the company would provide the SFPUC with $2 million per year for 10 years as mitigation funds that will help low-income and environmentally disadvantaged communities impacted by its operations. The Board of Supervisors sets up guidelines and restrictions in 2007 as to how the money should be spent.

SFPUC will make a presentation to the board in May to outline how it will use the money to implement the city’s energy policy. To that end, Power Enterprise is in the process of outlining the division of funds. They are:

* Ten percent of the funds will go to Workforce Development for green job training programs.

* Half of the funds will focus on energy efficiency projects. The SFPUC is working with other city agencies to identify facilities that require energy upgrades. Most of these agencies are general-fund entities like public health, public schools, parks etc. The SFPUC is also seeking to leverage some of the school bond funding passed in 2011 to help public schools become as energy efficient as possible. In collaboration with the community benefit program, the Power Enterprise also conducts energy audits for community facilities like the Southeast community center.

* About 20% of the fund goes to renewable energy for municipal sites.

Mr. Doyle added that on average Power Enterprise completes about 15 energy efficiency projects a year, spending about $5 to $6 million. Some of the money goes to renewables. But in the next two years, funding for capital projects will drop to $600,000 for each category, which will barely cover staff cost. So the funding from the TransBay cable project is critical.

Nonprofits also benefit from this program as some of them reside in city-owned buildings. In addition, GoSolarSF project provides rebates incentive for non-profits.

6. **Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 pm. The next meeting will be Tuesday, March 6, 2012.