

## CT Energy Workforce Development Consortium (CTEWDC) Meeting Notes

Wednesday, January 25, 2017 at 1:00 PM

### Attendees:

Mary Ann Miller, co-chair (Iroquois), Joe Ryzewski, co-chair (UI/AVANGRID), Tom Burns (Workforce Development Solutions), Leticia Colon (Energy Efficiencies Solutions), Andrea Comer (CBIA), Nancy Dittes (CT DEEP), Jennifer Duggan (CBIA), Diane Duva (CT DEEP), Eric Gribin (Tunxis Community College), Kate Lennon (Entech), Alice Martin (UI/AVANGRID), Catherine McCarthy (AVANGRID), Diana McCarthy-Bercury (Eversource), Laura Miller (Institute for Sustainable Energy), John Mitchell (HPACT), Mark Stankiewicz (CT Dept. of Labor), Therese Wallace (CBIA), Susan Winkel (United Illuminating)

### Welcome/Introductions

#### Status of Action Items from September 15, 2016 meeting

- Members to review draft CEWDC brochure and send edits to Andrea Comer for October printing of brochure - COMPLETE.
- Committee chairs to recruit committee members and develop mission statement – SEE COMMITTEE REPORTS SECTION.
- Executive Committee to draft by-laws for presenting at next quarterly meeting – COMPLETE.
- Post report and related metrics to date on the [getintoenergyct.com](http://getintoenergyct.com) website under Resources – COMPLETE.

### Committee Reports

- Executive Committee: Joe distributed copies of the by-laws and strategic plan drafted by the Executive Committee. He asked Consortium members to review them both and send comments to Mary Ann Miller by March 1.
- Education Committee: Chair, Eric Gribin, reported that the committee met via telecom and drafted the following mission statement: The mission of the Education Committee of the CT Energy Workforce Development Consortium is to advance training opportunities to meet the needs of the state's workforce.  
The committee's next step will be to review the Consortium's strategic plan and see how the committee can best serve the needs of the plan. The committee's plans will also take shape based on training-related issues that arise in meeting discussions. Eric said that the committee would welcome more involvement from Consortium members. Diana McCarthy-Bercury volunteered to join Eric and the other Education Committee members, Nancy Dittes, Diana Duva, Tom Burns and Merilee Baker Roussat, in their efforts.

- *Business Community*: Co-Chairs Diana McCarthy-Bercury and Laurie Shuckerow met and discussed options for increasing the number of businesses engaged in the Consortium. One idea was to hold a stakeholder forum of business sectors in energy to help identify the specific needs of the sectors and how the Consortium can be of assistance. The Connecticut Power and Energy Society would be a good source for putting together a panel discussion on issues of interest to the business community. Laurie and Diana also suggested having a job postings section on the [getintoenergyct.com](http://getintoenergyct.com) website. One of the challenges of course would be keeping such a list current. Joe suggested that a seasonal approach to updating the postings would align well with hiring practices in the sector.

**Action Item:** Andrea Comer will send Diana the contact information for Adam Ney of CBIA who can share relevant information about energy businesses in the state.

- *Policy Committee*: Andrea Comer reported that Eric Brown was unavailable to attend today due to meetings up at the Capitol.

**Action Item:** Andrea will ask Eric to send an update to the Consortium regarding the energy-related legislation that he is tracking during this session.

- *Communication*: Andrea Comer distributed printed copies of the [getintoenergyct.com](http://getintoenergyct.com) brochure. Additional copies are available by contacting Andrea or Therese Wallace. Updates to the [getintoenergyct.com](http://getintoenergyct.com) website continue and Andrea asked members to send news, events and other informational items to her or Therese Wallace in order to keep the recently revamped website timely and vibrant.

## Updates and Roundtable Discussion

Mark Stankiewicz talked about the apprenticeship program for energy which assists employers with the costs for training new employees. The process includes the employer designing an on-the-job training program customized to their needs and submitting it to the Department of Labor for review to ensure that it fits within the grant requirements and then DOL certifies the occupation for apprenticeship eligibility. The Energy Efficiency Technician Work Schedule is currently posted on the website. It was suggested that this schedule might be a good category for bringing together three general needs that Diana McCarthy-Bercury mentioned the apprenticeship program could serve: technical high schools, current industry and community colleges. Mark said that the DOL is continually working to streamline the approval process and he encouraged everyone to take advantage of the funding for this initiative that is currently set to expire in 2020.

**Action Item:** Andrea will forward a copy of the Energy Efficiency Technician Work Schedule that is currently posted on the website.

DEEP continues to support the Workforce Development Assessment & Analysis project as well as Tunxis' Energy Management Program Applied Associate of Science AAS degree program. Diane Duva asked members for contacts/suggestions for finding the most efficient, accurate way of tracking how many jobs are employed on a

particular worksite each day and in what categories, i.e. numbers of electricians, plumbers). DEEP needs to use these figures to tie investment dollars by the State directly with number of jobs created by each project.

Leticia Colon talked about meetings she attended regarding legislative energy proposals and felt that Senators seemed most excited about two ideas in particular: sharing solar power and leading by example. A public information meeting will be hosted by DEEP on February 15 at 2:00 p.m.

Laura Miller reported on the activities of the Institute for Sustainable Energy and distributed information about Sustainable CT's Regional Forum to be held at the Seymour Town Hall on January 27, 2017.

Diana McCarthy-Bercury and Jennifer Duggan reported on the progress of the Green STEP that is fully engaged at all 17 technical high schools. Activities include field trips for students to zero energy homes and for the first time, summer internships will be offered to energy students. The application process will be in place in February. Also, some students will be participating in the CT Science & Engineering Fair at Quinnipiac University, March 14 – 18, 2017. Judges are needed for the Fair. She directed anyone interested in judging to go to [ctsciencefair.org](http://ctsciencefair.org) to register.

Alice Martin talked about the eeSmarts Statewide Student contest for K-12 that is getting underway and directed members to [eesmarts.com](http://eesmarts.com) for more information.

Andrea Comer talked about CBIA's recently-formed Young Energy & Environment Professionals group and invited anyone who is interested to attend the next meeting which will be held sometime in March (date will be posted on the Consortium calendar). Also, the Connecticut Science Center's Women in Science Committee will award its 2017 STEM Achievement Award to the CBIA Education & Workforce Partnership at a breakfast on April 25, 2017.

Eric Gribin reported that three energy courses have started up in January at Tunxis with enrollment continuing to rise. Students from the college, as well as students involved in the MET2 program, will be able to use the Tunxis House for energy audit work. Work continues on certifying partnerships between Tunxis and high schools to allow high school students to receive high school credit and college credit for certain energy courses.

Eric cited energy-related jobs figures from the January 2017 U.S. Energy and Jobs Report from the U.S. Department of Education and U.S. Department of Labor.

**Action Item:** Eric will forward copies of the report, which includes numbers specific to Connecticut, to the members of the Consortium.

Tom Burns reported on his Workforce Development Assessment and Analysis work including updating metrics for Connecticut and information regarding education providers, apprenticeships and entry-level training.

Entech's new semesters begin in February and March and then again in August. Kate Lennon asked everyone to let her know of training opportunities.

Catherine McCarthy is currently reviewing AVANGRID's talent pipeline portfolio and will check on apprenticeship and early career development opportunities for possible coordination with the DOL program.

**Action Item:** Report on findings

Joe Ryzewski talked about upcoming events that AVANGRID will be participating in regarding student career development including Engineering Week February 20<sup>th</sup> (see IEEE website) and Construction Pro Rodeo on May 3-4, 2017 presented by the Association Builders and Contractors of Connecticut (see CTrodeo.com). Joe distributed notes from the CEWD Summit he attended in November and highlighted some of the key points discussed at the meeting.

**Summary of Action Items**

- Members to send comments on draft by-laws and strategic plan to Mary Ann Miller by March 1
- Committee chairs to recruit committee members, finalize mission statement and develop plans for 2017
- Members to send to Therese Wallace dates and other details for events to add to website calendar
- Coordinate with Alice Martin to hold next Consortium meeting at Energize CT Center in North Haven

**Next Meeting Date** – Monday, May 15, 2017 from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM